NOTIFICATION
Port Blair, dated the 15th January, 2021

F.No. 1-116/2020-21/Guidelines/TW/34 SCHEME FOR GRANT OF ADDITIONAL SCHOLARSHIP TO THE STUDENTS BELONGING TO SCHEDULED TRIBES (ST) OF ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS FOR PURSUING HIGHER STUDIES ANYWHERE IN INDIA POST-SENIOR SECONDARY COURSES (POST 10+2 COURSES),

1) **Objective:**
   The objective of the scheme is to provide additional financial assistance (scholarship) to the ST students pursuing higher education after Senior Secondary i.e. 12th Standard in the Colleges/Universities anywhere in India, as an incentive to supplement the cost of their education.

2) **Scope:**
   This additional scholarship shall be provided by the Directorate of Tribal Welfare, A&N Administration to the students belonging to Scheduled Tribes of Andaman & Nicobar Islands for undertaking studies anywhere in India and shall be in addition to the Scholarship/maintenance cost being awarded to the ST students by the Department of Education, Andaman & Nicobar Administration and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt of India.

3) **Criteria of eligibility:**
   a) The additional scholarship shall be open to all students of Scheduled Tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands as notified by the President of India under Article 342 (1) of the Constitution of India vide the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Scheduled Tribes Order No. 58, dated 31.03.1959.
   b) The additional scholarship shall be given for pursuing higher studies for all recognized regular and full-time Post-Senior Secondary courses (post 10+2 courses), Graduate/Post Graduate courses (leading to Diploma/ Degree), Doctoral and Post-Doctoral courses, in any of the Government recognized Institutions and/or AICTE/UGC approved, or equivalent institutions, anywhere in the country, such as:
      
      (i) All courses leading to a Graduate Degree, e.g. B.A/B.Sc./B.Com. etc.
      (ii) All Post-Graduate Courses, e.g. M.A/M.Sc./M.Com/M.Ed/M. Pharma. etc.
      (iii) Degree and Post-Graduate level courses including M.Phil, Ph.D and Post-Doctoral Research in Medicine (Allopathy, Indian and other recognized systems of medicines), Engineering, Technology, Planning, Architecture, Design, Fashion Technology, Agriculture, Veterinary & Allied Sciences,
Management, Business Finance/ Administration, Computer Science/ Applications etc.

(iv) Post-Graduate Diploma courses in various branches of Management & Medicine, Commercial Pilot License (including helicopter pilot and multiengine rating) course etc.

(v) C.A/I.C.W.A./C.S./I.C.F.A. etc.

(vi) M.Phil, Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral Programmes (D.Litt., D.Sc. etc.)

(vii) Graduate/Post-Graduate Courses leading to Degree, Diploma, Certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B. Pharm), Nursing (B. Nursing), LLB, BFS, other para medical branches like Rehabilitation Diagnostics etc., Mass Communication, Hotel Management & Catering, Travel/ Tourism/ Hospitality Management, Interior Decoration, Nutrition & Dietetics, Commercial Art, Financial Services (e.g. Banking, Insurance, Taxation etc.) for which educational qualification is minimum Sr. Secondary (10+2)

(viii) All post matriculation level non-degree courses for which educational qualification is vocational stream, ITI course, 3 year Diploma Course in Polytechnic etc.

c) Only those students who belong to STs so specified and notified in relation to Andaman and Nicobar Islands and are domicile of A&N islands and who have passed Senior Secondary (10+2) from a recognized Board of Senior Secondary Education or any other higher examination from a recognized University shall be eligible for additional scholarship.

d) Students, who fail to clear Bachelor courses in Arts/Science/Commerce for which they had been awarded this additional scholarship, and join any other recognized Professional or Technical certificate/Diploma/ Degree courses, shall be awarded additional scholarship, if they are otherwise eligible.

e) Students studying in class XI of the Higher Secondary School courses or the XII class of the Multipurpose High School shall not be eligible for this additional scholarship, because of its not being a higher/ professional course. However, in cases, where tenth class examination of such courses is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students who after passing Tenth class join other recognized professional/ technical courses, such students shall be treated as Post-Matric students and therefore, shall be eligible for the award of this additional scholarship.

f) Students who, after passing one stage of education are studying in the same stage of education in different subject, e.g. B.Sc after B.A. or B.Com after B.A or, M.A in a subject after pursuing M.A or its equivalent in another subject, etc, shall not be eligible.

g) Students who, after having completed their educational career in one professional course, apply for another professional course, eg. LLB after B.T/B.Ed etc. shall also not be eligible for this scholarship.

h) Students pursing Post-Graduate courses in Medicine shall be eligible for this scholarship provided they are not allowed to practice during the period of their course.

4) **Value of additional scholarship:**
Under this scheme of additional scholarship for Scheduled Tribe Students, an amount of Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) per month shall be given to the eligible students.

5) **Payment and mode of disbursal of additional scholarship:**
   a) The additional scholarship shall be payable for ten months in an academic session.
   b) The additional scholarship shall be normally admissible to the pass-out students of previous academic session.
   c) The additional scholarship money shall be directly released to the bank account of the beneficiaries by the Directorate of Tribal Welfare.

6) **Sanctioning Authority:**
   The Secretary (Tribal Welfare) shall be the sanctioning authority of this additional scholarship under this scheme.

7) **Duration and Renewal of Scholarship:**
   a) The award of additional scholarship once made shall be tenable from the stage at which it is given to student till the completion of course, subject to good conduct and regularity in attendance, as certified by the Head of the Institution. It will be renewed from year to year provided that within a course, which is continuous for a number of years, the beneficiary secures promotion to the next higher class irrespective of the fact whether such examinations are conducted by a University or Institution.
   b) If a ST beneficiary pursuing a course fails in the yearly examination for the first time, the scholarship may be renewed. For second and subsequent failures in any class, the student shall bear his/her own expenses until he/she secures promotion to the next higher class.
   c) If a beneficiary is unable to appear in the annual examination owing to illness and /or on account of any other unforeseen event, the award may be renewed for the next academic year on submission of medical certificate and /or other required sufficient proof to the satisfaction of Head of the Institution and his /her certifying that the beneficiary would have passed the examination had he appeared in it.
   d) If according to the Regulations of a University/Institution, a student is promoted to the next higher examination of the junior class again after sometime, he/she will be entitled to additional scholarship for the class to which he /she is promoted if the student is otherwise eligible for additional scholarship.

8) **Other Criteria for award of the additional scholarship:**
   a) The additional scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress of the beneficiary. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution at any time that a beneficiary has, by reasons of his/her own act or default, failed to make satisfactory progress or has been found guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission of the authorities concerned etc., the authority sanctioning the additional scholarship may either cancel the additional scholarship or stop or withhold further payment for such period as he/she may deem fit by recording the reasons for such denial in writing.
   b) If a student is found to have obtained an additional scholarship by false statement, his/her additional scholarship can be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the
additional scholarship paid shall be recovered, at the discretion of the sanctioning authority. The student concerned shall be blacklisted and debarred from applying for additional scholarship under any scheme of the Directorate of Tribal Welfare, thereafter.

c) An additional scholarship awarded may be cancelled if the beneficiary changes the subject of the course of study for which the additional scholarship was originally awarded or changes the institution of study, without prior approval of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration. The Head of the Institution shall report such cases to the Director (TW), Directorate of Tribal Welfare, Andaman & Nicobar Administration and stop payment of the additional scholarship, till the time due approval of the Competent Authority is received. The amount already paid may also be recovered at the discretion of the sanctioning authority.

d) A beneficiary is liable to refund the additional scholarship amount at the discretion of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration, if during the course of the year, the studies for which the additional scholarship has been awarded, is discontinued by him/her.

e) The provisions of the scheme can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Andaman & Nicobar Administration.

9) Announcement of the scheme:
The UT Administration may announce the details of the scheme and invite applications every year, through National Scholarship Portal (NSP) by issuing advertisements in the leading newspaper and through other suitable media.

10) Student/Applicant
The student/applicant is to register and submit the application at National Scholarship Portal (NSP). The student/applicant who is applying for the first time on NSP portal, is referred to as Fresh students, and the students who have been granted additional scholarship in any of the scheme on-boarded at NSP in the immediately preceding Academic Year, are referred to as Renewal students. The student/applicant using the NSP must adhere to the conditions stipulated therein

11) Selection of candidates:
All the eligible Scheduled Tribes students will be given additional scholarship subject to fulfilment of instructions prescribed in this scheme.

12) Funding pattern of the scheme:
The scheme shall be implemented by the Directorate of Tribal Welfare, Andaman and Nicobar Administration through the funds made available under UT Plan.

13) Powers:
The Lieutenant Governor (Administrator), Andaman and Nicobar Islands, may however, relax/modify any or all the eligibility criteria for the purpose of grant of additional scholarship to a deserving, meritorious and needy applicant not fulfilling the eligibility criteria otherwise.

14) Monitoring and Evaluation:
The Monitoring and Evaluation of the financial and physical performance of the scheme shall be done periodically by the Secretary (Tribal Welfare). The Directorate shall furnish Quarterly Progress Report regarding the number of beneficiaries receiving award of additional scholarship under the scheme, both class-wise and gender wise. On the financial side, details of the actual expenditure incurred during the last financial year and expenditure proposed for the present financial year shall be submitted by the Department.

By order and in the name of the Lt. Governor,
Andaman and Nicobar Islands

(Sanjeev Kumar Mittal)
Secretary (Tribal Welfare)