

No. 11014/28/2007-SCD-V  
Government of India  
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment  
(SCD-V)

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated: 08.06.2011

To  
Secretaries in charge of SC Welfare, All States/UTs

**Subject: Changes in the centrally sponsored scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in 'unclean' occupations.**

**Reference: The Ministry's letter of even number dated 21.01.2009.**

Madam/Sir,

The Government of India is implementing the Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in 'unclean' occupations since 1977-78. The scheme aims to provide financial assistance for pre-matric education to children of the following target groups, viz. (i) scavengers (ii) sweepers having traditional links with scavenging, (iii) tanners, and (iv) flayers. Under the scheme, 100% central assistance is provided to State Governments/UT Administrations from the Government of India for the total expenditure under the Scheme, over and above their respective Committed Liability. The level of Committed Liability of respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for a year is equivalent to the level of actual expenditure incurred by them under the scheme during the terminal year of the last Five Year.

2. Regulations governing the Scheme were communicated to States/UTs vide this Ministry's letter no.11014/28/2002-SCD-V dated 30.10.2003. These were last modified w.e.f.1.4.2008 and communicated to States/UTs vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 21.01.2009.

3. The above Scheme has now been further partially modified so as to revise its '**Object**' and '**Conditions of eligibility**', in such a manner as to do away with the condition which restricts the Scholarship to the Children of only existing manual scavengers.

4. The changes, which will come into force with effect from 1.7.2011, are summarized in the table below:

Title/para no. of the Scheme	Existing Provision	Revised Provision
<p><b>1. Object</b></p>	<p>The object of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to enable the <u>children of scavengers of dry latrines, tanners, flayers and sweepers who have traditional link with scavenging</u> to pursue pre-matric education.</p>	<p>The object of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to <b>children whose parents/guardian belong to one of the following categories, to pursue Pre-matric education : -</b></p> <p><b>i) Persons who are either presently engaged in manual scavenging or were so engaged upto or after 1.1.97 or the date on which the " The Employment of manual scavengers and construction of Dry latrines (Prohibition) Act 1993" came into force in their State/UT, whichever is earlier;</b></p> <p><b>ii) Tanners; and</b></p> <p><b>iii) Flayers.</b></p> <p><b>Note 1:- "Manual scavenging" in this Scheme will mean as defined in Sec. 2(j) of the "The Employment of manual scavengers and construction of Dry latrines (Prohibition) Act 1993"</b></p> <p><b>Note 2:- "Presently engaged in manual scavenging" would include those who may be cleaning human excreta, on a regular basis, either from dry latrines or drains, sewers, septic tanks, manholes etc.</b></p>
<p><b>2.Conditions of eligibility</b></p>	<p>i) Scholarship will be admissible to the children of Indian Nationals who irrespective of their religion, are actively engaged in</p>	<p>i) Scholarship will be admissible to the children/wards of Indian Nationals who, irrespective of their religion are:</p>

	<p><u>scavenging of dry latrines, and other 'unclean' occupations i.e. tanning and flaying only, which are traditionally considered 'unclean'.</u></p>	<p>a) either presently engaged in manual scavenging or were so engaged upto or after 1.1.97 or the date on which the "The Employment of manual scavengers and construction of Dry latrines (Prohibition) Act 1993" came into force in their State/UT, whichever is earlier;</p> <p>b) presently engaged in Tanning and/or Flaying.</p>
	<p>ii) It is not possible to draw a line of demarcation between sweepers and scavengers since most of the sweepers are doing the job of scavenging. Hence, the benefit of this scheme will be available to the children of those sweepers only who have traditional links with scavenging.</p>	<p><b>Deleted</b></p>
	<p>iii) In rural areas, <u>children of all those who are actually engaged in scavenging of dry latrines, tanning and flaying</u> will be covered.</p>	<p><b>Deleted</b></p>
	<p>(iv) Children who are born to parents who are not engaged in such occupations, but have been adopted by such person will be eligible for scholarship only after a lapse of three years from the date of such adoption provided that they have been living with the adopted parents since the date of such adoption. Such children will be eligible only if their parents furnish such certificates (such as of proof</p>	<p>(ii) Children who are born to parents who are not engaged in such occupations, but have been adopted by such person <b>(as mentioned in sub para 2(i) above)</b> will be eligible for scholarship only after a lapse of three years from the date of such adoption provided that they have been living with the adopted parents since the date of such adoption. Such children will be eligible only if their parents furnish such certificates (such as</p>

	of their occupation, date of adoption etc.) as may be required by the concerned State Government/Union Territory administration.	of proof of their occupation, date of adoption etc.) as may be required by the concerned State Government/Union Territory administration.
	(v) A certificate should be obtained from the candidates each year to the effect that at least one parent is still engaged in an 'unclean' occupations as defined in the object of the scheme and para 2(i) and (iv) above.	(iii) A certificate should be obtained from the eligible candidates as follows:  a) From Children/wards mentioned in sub- para 2(i)(a): <u>only once</u> , at the time of their first application/renewal, as the case may be, of Pre-matric Scholarship, <u>after</u> the coming into force of this revision (of 2011), to the effect that at least one parent belongs to the relevant categories; b) From Children/wards mentioned in sub- para 2(i)(b): <u>every year</u> , to the effect that at least one parent is currently engaged in tanning and/or flaying.

A copy of the revision of regulations of the Scheme, incorporating the above changes is also enclosed (**Annexure**).

5. State Governments/UT Administrations are requested to please widely publicise the above changes and send a proposal for Central assistance for the year 2011-12, in the light of the above revision of the Scheme, so as to reach the undersigned, **not later than 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2011**.

Yours faithfully

(Ganga Kumar)  
Deputy Secretary  
Tel: +91-11-23070801  
Email: kumar.ganga@nic.in

Copy for information to:-

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2. PS to Minister of State (SJ&E)
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4. Secretary, NCSC/NCSK
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