To,

Shri S. K. Thade, Secretary,
ST & Backward Class Welfare Department,
Government of West Bengal,
Writer's Building, Kolkata - 741 101

Subject: Upward revision of the annual parental income ceiling under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe students w.e.f academic session 2013-14.

Sir,

Kindly refer to my D.O. letter No.20014/33/2012-Education dated 9.4.2013 seeking proposal from your Department for Central Assistance under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe students for the financial year 2013-14. In this context, I am directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to say that as per the above scheme, the income ceiling would be revised once in every two years linking it with the consumer price index for industrial workers for the month of October of the year, preceding the year of revision and will be made effective from April.

2. Accordingly, it has been decided, with the approval of the Competent Authority, to increase the annual parental income ceiling under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe students from Rs.2.00 lakh to Rs.2.50 lakh per annum w.e.f the academic session 2013-14 (to be effective from 1.4.2013).

3. You are requested to send your proposals for Central Assistance keeping in view the above income ceiling. The proposals, complete in all respects in the proforma prescribed under the scheme and already sent to you vide the D.O. letter mentioned in Para 1 above may please be sent along with the following documents:-

- The utilization certificate of the previous year's released grants.
- Details of the Committed Liability on the State Government/UT Administrations (a proforma attached for ready reference).
- Physical progress achieved during the last financial year.
- Details of preparedness of the States to roll out DBT across the country.

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4. I am also directed to invite your attention to the deliberations that took place during the course of consultation with State’s Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/Commissioner-In-Charge/Directors of Tribal Development/Welfare Departments held in New Delhi on May 15-17, 2013 in which compliance of the following key tasks in connection with DBT roll out was discussed:-

- **Digitization of database**

  States/UTs must digitize the beneficiary database and covert data in Excel sheets to standardized formats developed by the NIC (details available on [http://dbtapp.gov.in](http://dbtapp.gov.in)). The digitization of databases should begin in all districts irrespective of the rollout of DBT and States are to report in the meeting complete action on digitization.

- **Obtaining of Digital Signature Certificates of designated officers at District and State level**

  Obtaining of Digital Signature Certificates (D.S.C.s) for designated offices at district and State level is necessary for verification and authorization of beneficiary list and a necessary condition for the Excel sheet to be an authorized data base on which payment decisions will rest. States/UTs were required to urgently designate officials at District and State levels and the designated officials were to apply for Digital Signature Certificate to respective NIC State Unit and contact local NIC officials for training in [http://dbtapp.gov.in](http://dbtapp.gov.in). Compliance of these instructions was to be completed by 30th April, 2013. States may be updated in the meeting.

- **Opening of bank accounts of the beneficiaries**

  States/UTs may ensure that all ST beneficiaries of the scheme of Post Metric Scholarship for STs have bank accounts. They may urgently pursue with lead banks for speedy opening of bank accounts in respect of beneficiaries which do not yet have accounts in banks with Core Banking System so as to enable payment of scholarship amount into the bank a/c of the beneficiaries.

- **Enrolment of beneficiaries for generation of Aadhaar numbers and seeding of bank accounts with Aadhaar numbers**

  The States may in cooperation with UIDAI organize special Aadhaar Enrolment Camps in war footing for the ST beneficiaries in each district at appropriate location(s) to ensure that all have Aadhaar numbers at the earliest. The existing status may be reported in the meeting. After Aadhaar enrolment of beneficiaries, the States are required to pursue with the lead banks for expediting the Aadhaar seeding of their bank accounts so that payment of scholarships into bank accounts of the beneficiaries can be made through the Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB).
Re-engineering of Fund Flow

The DBT system seeks to ensure that the follow of funds to the beneficiaries under the various schemes is made more efficient by removing such redundant layers which do not contribute value to decision making. There are redundant layers of procedure and sometimes only aggregate data leading to delay and inefficiency. Process re-engineering of the scheme and its architecture is therefore necessary at State level as well as at levels below. This must be in both decision making as well as funds flow. In order to ensure that the State share of the scholarship amount is paid into the bank account of the beneficiary speedily by passing through the minimum number of layers possible, the manner of deciding which levels in government will be part of selection/authorization process and which levels participate in the fund flow route of the Post Matric Scholarships for STs in each State is to be urgently re-engineered and the Ministry informed of the completion of the exercise.

Training

NIC to coordinate training of state/district level functionaries. State and district teams of trainers to get ready through training by NIC in the next two weeks. Progress on arranging this tie up be reported.

Monitoring Rollout and reporting of progress in I & II Phase.

A robust monitoring system for monitoring the rollout should be put in place by the State/UTs and intimated to this Ministry. The States may formulate an Action Plan with timelines for completing the above mentioned preparatory work so as to ensure successful rollout of DBT in the Phase II districts w.e.f. 17.3.2013. Weekly progress report in prescribed format must be provided to the nodal officer DBT in the Ministry by every Thursday.

5. It is requested that your compliance report in respect of the above mentioned key issues may also please be sent immediately to Ms. Shyla Titus, Deputy Secretary (DBT) in this Ministry under intimation to the undersigned.

Yours faithfully,

(Roopak Chaudhuri)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel: 011-23070508
Proforma of the Committed Liability of the State Governments/UT Administrations for every year of the 12th Five Year Plan period under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for ST students

The Committed Liability of the State Governments/UT Administrations for every year of the 12th Five Year Plan is calculated as the total actual expenditure (State Share + Central Share) incurred for the year 2011-12 minus additional actual expenditure for the years 2010-11 & 2011-12 paid in during 2011-12, if any, on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01-07-2010.

The details may please be furnished as follows:-

| Total Expenditure Incurred (State Share + Central Share) during 2011-12 | Rs. |
| Minus: Additional actual expenditure for the years 2010-11 paid in during 2011-12, if any, on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01-07-2010 | Rs. |
| Minus: Additional actual expenditure for the years 2011-12 paid in during 2011-12, if any, on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01-07-2010 | Rs. |
| Thus, Committed Liability of the State Government for every year of the 12th Five Year Plan | Rs. |