

CHAPTER 15

PROGRAMMES FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Special Provisions for students with disabilities under the schemes being implemented by Ministry of Tribal Affairs

15.1 Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for ST students

The following additional provision has been made for ST students with disabilities:

(a) Reader Allowance for Blind Scholars:

| Level of Course | Reader Allowance (Rs. per month) |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Group I, II | 240 |
| Group III | 200 |
| Group IV | 160 |

(b) Provision of transport allowance up to Rs. 160 per month for disabled students, if such student does not reside in the hostel, which is within the premises of educational institution. The disability as per the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1955 is defined as blindness, low-vision, leprosy-cured, hearing impairment, locomotors disability, mental retardation and mental illness;

(a) Escort Allowance of Rs. 160/- per month for severely handicapped day scholar students with low extremity disability;

(c) Special Pay of Rs. 160/- per month is admissible to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopaedically handicapped student residing in hostel of an educational institution, who may need the assistance of the helper;

(d) Allowance of Rs. 240/- per month towards extra coaching to mentally retarded and mentally ill students.

The provisions in (b) to (d) will also apply to leprosy-cured students.

Up-gradation of Merit for ST Students

15.2 There is a provision to include 3% disabled ST students wherever possible. Besides the amount of scholarship, student with disabilities are awarded the following assistance:-

(a) Reader Allowance of Rs. 150 per month for blind students in class IX to XII;

(b) Transport allowance of Rs. 100 per month for the disabled students if such a student does not reside in the hostel, which is within the premises of educational institution. The disability as per the said Act is defined as blindness, low-vision, leprosy-cured, hearing impairment, locomotors disability, mental retardation and mental illness;

(c) Special pay of Rs. 150 per month be admissible to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopaedically handicapped students residing in a hostel managed by the educational or by the State Government/Union Territory Administration who may need the assistance of a helper;

(d) Escort allowance of Rs. 100 per month for severely handicapped day scholar students with lower extremity disability.

The provisions in (b) to (d) will also apply to leprosy-cured students.

Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for ST Students

15.3 Escorts/Reader Assistance @ Rs. 2,000/- p.m. in cases of physically and visually handicapped candidates is provided.

Hostels for ST Girls and Boys

15.4 It has been kept in the provisions of the scheme that a few rooms/blocks of the hostels be constructed barrier free and facilities like ramp etc. for the convenience of the ST students with disabilities.

Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas

15.5 It has been kept in the provisions of the scheme that a few rooms/blocks of the hostels be constructed barrier free and facilities like ramp etc. for the convenience of the ST students with disabilities.

Pre-Matric Scholarship for needy Scheduled Tribe Students studying in classes IX&X

15.6 Additional Allowances for ST students with disabilities studying in private unaided Schools

Under the Centrally-sponsored Scheme of 'Inclusive Education of the Disabled at Secondary Stage' (IEDSS) implemented by the M/o HRD, assistance @Rs.3000/- p.a. is already being given under its "Student Oriented Component" to students with disabilities studying at the Secondary stage in Govt., local body and Govt. aided schools. However, students in un-aided schools are not covered under IEDSS. Therefore, ST students with disabilities, studying in classes IX & X in private un-aided recognized schools, will be eligible for allowances under this Scheme, as follows:

| Allowances for students with disabilities studying in Private un-aided Schools | Amount (in Rs.) |
|--|-----------------|
| (i) Monthly Reader Allowance for Blind students | 160 |
| (ii) Monthly Transport Allowance for students with disabilities (as defined in the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995), if such students do not reside in the hostel which is within the premises of the Educational Institution. | 160 |
| (iii) Monthly Escort Allowance for Severely Disabled (i.e. with 80% or higher disability) Day Scholars/ Students with low extremity disability | 160 |
| (iv) Monthly Helper Allowance admissible to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopedically handicapped student residing in the hostel of an Educational Institution who may need the assistance of a helper. | 160 |
| (v) Monthly Coaching Allowance to Mentally Retarded and Mentally ill Students | 240 |

Note: The disability as defined under the Persons with disabilities (equal opportunities, Protection of rights and full participation Act, 1995) Act has to be certified by competent medical authority of the State Govt./UT Administration

NGO Schemes

16.7 The State Governments have been requested to advise NGOs receiving funds under the NGO schemes and under the Scheme of Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PTGs), to provide 'Barrier-free Environment' facilities in the residential schools/non-residential schools, hostels, 10 or more bedded hospitals and buildings such as Community Centers, etc. as per the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities, 2006.