DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171001

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PRESS RELEASE

The Ministry of Minority Affairs (MoMA), Govt. of India has implements three Scholarship Schemes viz Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes for the Minorities as Central Sector Schemes, with 100% Central funding Under these Schemes, Scholarships are awarded to the Economically weaker and meritorious students from six centrally notified minority communities viz. Buddhist , Christian, Jain, Muslim, Sikh and Zoroastrain (Parsis) pursuing studies in India in a Government or recognised private university /institute/college/school.

The Central Govt. has decided to open the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) on 15th July, 2019 for the three Scholarships Schemes for 2019-20. Other timelines are as under:-

a	Opening of Portal for submission of Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Mean based scholarship application .	15th July, 2019
b	Last date for Pre-Matric Scholarship application.	15th October, 2019
c	Last date for making Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Mean based scholarship application.	31st October, 2019
d	Last date for first level verification for Pre-Matric scholarship application.	31st October, 2019
e	Last date for second level verification for Pre-Matric scholarship application.	15th November, 2019
f	Last date for first level verification for Post-Matric and Merit-Cum-Mean based scholarships application.	15th November, 2019
g	Last date for second level verification for Post-Matric and Merit-Cum-Mean based scholarship application.	30th November, 2019

Therefore, above Ministry wanted to initiate the process of inviting online applications through the State Government /UT Administrations for the aforesaid Schemes, as per existing guidelines.

The State-wise/Community-wise physical allocation (as per Census 2011) for Fresh Scholarship in respect of three Scholarship Schemes for the financial year 2019-20 shall be is 30 lakh, 5 lakh and 60,000 scholarships respectively. Whereas, there is no target for renewal applications and all valid renewal applications are eligible for scholarship.

During 2019-20, the online Implementation of the Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes shall be done through the **National Scholarship Portal (NSP) of the Government of India**, under URL. www.scholarships.gov.in. A Mobile App- National Scholarships (NSP) has also been prepared for the same for use by all applicants in the remote/hilly areas. A link to the site is also made available in the website of Ministry of Minority i.e. www.minorityaffairs.gov.in. Only Online Applications under the Schemes will be accepted and no request for offline applications will be entertained. Asked Question (FAQs) with the timelines is available on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) as well.

In view of above, all State Governments/UTs Administrations are requested to take the following actions:-

(i) All renewal applications/students (applicants who have got scholarship during 2017-18) may apply by giving their existing Application ID.

(ii) All Universities/Institutes/ colleges/schools located in State/UTs may be advised to register themselves and their courses details on the NSP at the earliest so that their students can apply and they can verify such applications on the portal within the aforesaid timelines.

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(iii)   All Institutes/ Schools that do not have valid AISHE/DISE codes have been deregistered. A provision has been made for their re-registration after obtaining valid AISHE/DISE code. States/UTs need to be proactive in re-registering such Institutes/Schools.

(iv)   Emails IDs and Mobile numbers of all Institutes/ Schools registered/stored in NSP have been deactivated. District /States/UTs Nodal Officers, as the case may be, will verify credentials of the Institute/School Nodal Officer and reset his/her password through a well-defined procedure. Wherein, the Institute/School Nodal Officer will fill up an online form on the Portal and get the printout authenticated in duplicate by his/her Head of the Institute/School and submit it to the District/State Nodal Officer. On verification, District/State Nodal Officer will activate the account of the Institute/School on the Portal using their login credentials. District/State/UT Nodal Officer will retain a copy of duly authenticated online form, received from the Institute/School and return the second copy to the Institute/School for their respective records. It will be the responsibility of the Institute/School to retain the copy received from District/State Nodal Officer and produce it to the appropriate authority on demand.

(v)   All the three Scholarship Schemes are individual beneficiary oriented scheme being implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs and the whole scholarship is disbursed to the beneficiary under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode. In this context, it is stated that as per the Gazette Notification, issued with respect to these Schemes. Under Section-7 of Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (18 of 2016) on 21-04-2017, it will be necessary for the eligible applicants to provide Aadhaar number while applying for Scholarship and in case, an individual does not possess Aadhaar one can provide the details of alternative identification documents, as stated in the Gazette Notification, detailed below:-

(a)   if she or he has enrolled, her or his Aadhaar Enrolment ID slip, or a copy of her or his request made for Aadhaar enrolment, as specified in sub-paragraph (b) of Paragraph, 2 and

(b)   Bank passbook with Photographs. or (ii) Ration Card, or (iii) Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card issued by the Income Tax Department, or (iv) Passport, or (v) Certificate of identity having photo of such student issued by a Headmaster or Principal of School under official seal of the school; or (vi) Driving licence issued by the Licensing Authority under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (59 of 1988); (vii) any other documents specified by the State Government or Union Territory Administration.

(vi)   All efforts may be made to adhere to the aforesaid timelines and resolve any technical issue that may crop up in the process of online submission, generation of merit lists and payments lots by coordinating with the NIC HQ or State NICs at the earliest.

(Note: -The Institutes which are registered on NSP 2.0 are required to submit Institute Registration Form for AY 2019-20. The Form is available in Institute Login.)

(Dr. Amarjeet K. Sharma)
Director of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla -1

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Copy forwarded to:

1. The Pri. Secretary (Edu.).to the Govt. HP Shimla-2 for information please.
2. The Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Minority Affairs, 11th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan. CGO Complex. Lodhi Road. New Delhi- 110003
3. The Director, All India Radio Centre, Shimla.
4. The Controller P&S Shimla-5 for publication in the Rajpatra
5. The Director. Doordarshan Centre, Shimla.
6. The Editor, The Tribune Newspaper. The Indian Express Newspaper,The Times of India Newspaper , Hindustan Times Newspaper. Shimla.
7. The Director, Public Information and Public Relation Department, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla – 171002, for publication please.
8. The TO, IT Cell, DHE-HP, with direction to upload the above Press Release on the Departmental website.

(Dr. Amarjeet K. Sharma)

O/o Dy.Director Higher Education
Shimla Distt. Shimla-01

Endst.No. Shiksha Sml(5-2)Gen.2017-18-19 Dated Shimla-171001

Copy to :-

1. The Director Higher Education H.P.Shimla-1 for information please.

2. All the Principals/Headmasters GSSS/GHS/Pvt .Schools in Distt.Shimla for information and further necessary action.

3. The Nodal Officer IT (internal) for information and further necessary action please.

Dy.Director Higher Education
Shimla Distt. Shimla 1710