

CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME OF  
**'National Overseas Scholarship for  
Students with Disabilities'**

FOR

PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDENTS WITH  
DISABILITIES TO PURSUE PROGRAMMES IN  
HIGHER EDUCATION OUTSIDE INDIA

**Effective from 2014-15**



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS.

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## National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT**  
**DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS**

## Central Sector Plan Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

### 1. THE SCHEME

The Scheme provides financial assistance to the students with disabilities who are finally selected for pursuing Master's level courses and Ph.D abroad in the following specified fields of study:-

- a) Engineering & Management;
- b) Pure Sciences & Applied Sciences;
- c) Agricultural Science & Medicine;
- d) Commerce, Accounting & Finance and
- e) Humanities, Social Science & Fine Arts.

1.1 **No. of Scholarships:** Twenty (20) awards per year are available under the Scheme.

1.2 **Women Candidates:** As the endeavor is to encourage women candidates, therefore, out of the total of twenty scholarships six scholarships for each year shall be earmarked for women candidates. However, in case adequate number of women candidates are not found available as per the stipulations of the Scheme or found unsuitable for selection by the Selection Committee, then the unutilized slots are to be utilized by selecting suitable male candidates. Category-wise distribution of the total no. of scholarships is shown below:

	Fields of study	Total No. of scholarships (each year) (including women candidates)	No. of scholarships reserved for women candidates (each year)	Category-wise distribution of seats
a)	Engineering & Management	06 (six)	02 (two)	Two each from VH, HH and OH categories
b)	Pure Sciences & Applied Sciences	03 (three)	01 (one)	One each from VH, HH and OH categories
c)	Agricultural Science & Medicine	03(three)	01 (one)	One each from VH, HH and OH categories
d)	Commerce,	04(four)	01 (one)	At least one each from

	Accounting & Finance			VH, HH and OH categories
e)	Humanities, Social Science & Fine Arts	04(four)	01 (one)	At least one each from VH, HH and OH categories
	Total	20 (twenty)	06 (six)	

1.3 If for any specific year, eligible candidates are not available to the extent prescribed for each of the above listed categories of disabled groups or subjects of study, the awards for that year will become open for candidates belonging to other categories of disabled groups or subjects of study mentioned above as per merit grades attained by such candidates.

1.4 Bachelor Level Courses in any discipline are not covered under the Scheme.

1.5 A list indicating the subjects under each field of study mentioned above which will qualify for consideration for award of scholarship is given at **Annexure-I(A)**.

## 2. MINIMUM QUALIFICATION

2.1 For Ph.D. - First class or 55%(fifty five per cent) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Master's Degree. Preference would be given to the experienced candidates, especially to those who are on lien with their existing post and employer.

2.2 For Masters' Degree:- 55%(fifty five per cent) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Bachelor's Degree. Preference would be given to the experienced candidates, especially to those who are on lien with their existing post and employer.

## 3. AGE

Below 35(Thirty Five) years, as on first day of the month of the advertisement of the scheme.

## 4. INCOME CEILING

Total income from all sources of the employed candidate or his/her parents/guardians, shall not exceed Rs.6,00,000/- ( Indian Rupees six lakh only) per annum, (excluding such allowances as are not treated as part of total income for the purpose of income tax) as certified by the employer. A copy of latest tax-assessment as well as latest monthly salary slip from the employer is also required to be enclosed with the application.

## 5. TWO CHILDREN IN A FAMILY AND ONE TIME AWARD

Not more than two disabled children of the same parents/guardians will be eligible and to this effect a self-certification will be required from the candidate. The awardee cannot be considered for the award for second or subsequent times as the individual can be awarded for once.

## 6. OTHER MANDATORY CONDITIONS

Other mandatory conditions have been placed at Annexure-II to this document.

## 7. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

### 7.1 Quantum of Annual Maintenance Allowance -

#### (a) For United States of America and other countries except United Kingdom:

The annual maintenance allowance of US\$ 15,400/- (US Dollars Fifteen Thousand four hundred) has been prescribed for all levels of courses covered under the Scheme.

#### (b) Only for United Kingdom:

The annual maintenance allowance of GBP 9,900/- (Great Britain Pound Nine Thousand nine hundred) has been prescribed.

### 7.2 Quantum of Annual Contingency Allowance -

#### (a) For United States of America and other countries except United Kingdom:

The prescribed contingency allowance for books/essential apparatus/study tour/travel cost for attending subject related conferences, workshops etc./ typing and binding of thesis etc. is US\$ 1500/- (US Dollars One thousand five hundred only) per annum.

#### (b) Only for United Kingdom:

The prescribed contingency allowance for books/essential apparatus/study tour/travel cost for attending subject related conferences, workshops etc./ typing and binding of thesis etc. is GBP 1100/- (Great Britain Pound One thousand one hundred only) per annum.

### 7.3. Incidental Journey Allowance

The prescribed Incidental journey allowance is US \$ 20/- (twenty only) or its equivalent in Indian Rupees.

#### **7.4 Equipment Allowance**

The prescribed equipment allowance is Rs.1500/- (Rupees one thousand five hundred only).

#### **7.5 Poll Tax**

Actual will be paid, wherever is applicable.

#### **7.6 Visa Fees**

Actual visa fees will be paid in Indian Rupees.

#### **7.7 Fees**

Tuition fees as per actual will be admissible.

#### **7.8 Medical Insurance Premium**

Actual as charged will be admissible.

#### **7.9 Cost of Air Passage**

Air passage grant on actual basis from India to the nearest place to the educational institution and back to India, by economy class and shortest route in arrangements with the national carrier, shall be provided.

#### **7.10 Local Travel**

Second or Coach Class railway fare from the port of disembarkation to the place of study and back. In case of far flung places not connected by rail, bus fare(s) from the place of residence to the nearest railway station, actual charge of crossing by ferry, air fare to the nearest rail-cum-air Station and/or second class railway fare by the shortest route to the port of embarkation and back will be permissible.

For attending interviews by the candidates at the place decided by the Government of India, the second-class fare/ordinary class bus fare from the city of their place of residence to the city in which the interviews for selection have been decided by the Government of India will be permissible.

## 8. EARNINGS FROM RESEARCH/TEACHING ASSISTANCESHIP

The awardees are permitted to supplement their prescribed allowances by undertaking Research/Teaching Assistantship up to US\$ 2400/- (US Dollars Two Thousand Four Hundred) per annum and for awardees in United Kingdom, GBP1560/- (Great Britain Pound One Thousand Five Hundred Sixty only) per annum and beyond these prescribed ceilings, their annual maintenance allowance under the Scheme will be correspondingly reduced by the Indian Missions abroad.

## 9. DURATION OF AWARD WITH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The prescribed financial assistance is provided up to completion of the course/research or the following period, whichever is earlier:-

- a) Ph.D. -- 04 years (Four years)
- b) Masters Degree -- 03 years (Three years)

The extension of stay beyond prescribed period for levels of courses as mentioned above, may be considered without financial assistance of any kind except the air passage to return to India, if and only if recommendation of the competent concerned authority in the educational institution/ university as well as the Indian Mission abroad is received certifying that such an overstay for a specified period, is absolutely essential for facilitating the candidate to complete the course. The final decision in this regard will, however, rest with the Government of India alone.

## 10. SELECTION PROCEDURE

The Scheme will be advertised in the newspapers giving summarized information about the Scheme. The candidates shall after assessing their eligibility and suitability, as per conditions of the Scheme, apply to Department of Disability Affairs (employed candidates through proper channel), in the prescribed application form which will form a part of the advertisement. The last date of receiving applications will also be mentioned in the advertisement. Thereafter, all applications received up to the last date of receiving applications, as notified in advertisement, will be put before the Screening Committee. The candidates short listed by the Screening Committee will be required to present themselves for personal interview before the Selection Committee. The merit list prepared, on the basis of assessment of individual candidates, by the Selection Committee will finally and decisively complete the selection procedure to decide the merit. In case of a tie between two or more candidates, the one who is eldest in age (as per the date of birth) will be

40 placed above the others, as per respective dates of birth as recorded in Secondary School Certificate.

The constitution of Screening and Selection Committee will be decided by Government of India. The Chairperson and Members of these Committees will be entitled to be paid airfare and the rate of Dearness Allowance will be as admissible to the Secretary to the Government of India. If the Chairperson and Members of these Committees are from Delhi/New Delhi then a suitable compensation package inclusive of travelling allowance will be payable to them, for each day of their participation in proceedings of the meetings. There will be no departmental representative in the Selection Committee and the concerned Department will lend only administrative and logistic support to them including services like tea, coffee, cold drinks, lunch, snacks etc. which may be arranged from anywhere.

## 11. PASSAGE GRANTS

11.1 In addition to the "National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities" in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down hereinabove, there is also a provision of "Passage Grants" to two Students with Disabilities in a year which are open throughout the year.

11.2 Only those Students with Disabilities who are in receipt of a merit scholarship for Post Graduate Studies, Research or Training abroad (excluding attending seminars, workshops, conferences), from a foreign government/ organization or under any other scheme, where the cost of passage is not provided, shall be eligible to apply.

11.3 The candidates should possess a Master's or an equivalent degree in Technical, Engineering and Science disciplines. The eligibility conditions otherwise will be same as contained in the scheme of "National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities".

11.4 For selected candidates, air passage to the destination abroad and back to India, will be provided by economy class and shortest route through arrangement with the **national carrier**.

11.5 The candidates, who have already reached abroad, will not be considered for passage grants.

11.6 The prospective candidates may contact the Department of Disability Affairs for obtaining the application form for applying for the passage grant.

## 12. DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF THE SCHEME

The scheme is effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2014.

### **13. DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT**

Disbursement of scholarship amount will be done by the Department of Disability Affairs through a designated bank who will remit the scholarship amount direct to the bank accounts of the selected candidates by using SWIFT or any other electronic mode. However, reports of the concerned Indian Embassies/High Commissions abroad will be obtained in order to verify the authenticity/recognition of the Institute of study and also to have the progress report of the student.

### **14. ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES**

As the project will be implemented by the Department of Disability Affairs through a bank to be designated for the purpose, In order to meet the bank charges and any other administrative charges related to implementation of the scheme, a provision of not exceeding 3% of the total budget shall be kept as administrative expenditure.

### **15. JURISDICTION OF THE SCHEME**

The jurisdiction of the Scheme is up to providing prescribed financial support to the selected candidates for pursuing higher education in the specified subjects. The Scheme does not cover employment aspects of the awardees and also does not provide for any kind of assistance to the awardees in seeking employment anywhere, after his/her having availed of the award.

### **16. DEFAULT UNDER THE SCHEME**

In case a candidate pursuing studies abroad violates any of the terms and conditions of the bonds executed by him/her and that the educational institution/ university intimates the Indian Mission abroad about his/her adverse reports on studies and/or conduct and/or that the candidate leaves for any other country or absconds or joins any other university or course/programme or/and returns to India in case of exigency without intimating the Indian Mission abroad, he/she will be declared defaulter and will become liable for refund of entire amount spent on him/her along with the interest which will be 12% per annum and in case an awardee fails to repay the amount within six months from the date on which a demand for such refund is made, penal interest at the rate which is 2.5% higher than the above normal rate of interest on the outstanding amount would be charged. If the awardee fails to repay such amount along with interest thereon in the manner decided by Government of India, his/her sureties who have executed bonds, will be liable to pay the

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entire amount failing which the District Collector of the concerned district will realize the amount as arrears of land revenue.

#### 17. FURNISHING OF FALSE INFORMATION

If any candidate has furnished any false information/document and is established as false, he/she will be debarred from the award and if he/she has availed of it or is availing, an action will be initiated for recovery of the amount spent with 15% compound interest thereon. Such candidate will also be black listed for future and the employed candidate will also have to face departmental action for such act, for which the Government of India will take up the matter with the respective employers. The respective employers are, therefore, also requested to carefully go through contents of application of their employees before forwarding the same to this Ministry. The employers are also free to insist on candidates employed by them to execute such bonds with them, as they deem fit and necessary and in accordance with their rules and regulations in such cases.

#### 18. LITIGATIONS

Any litigation on matters arising out of this scheme in India will be subject to sole jurisdiction of the courts situated in National Capital Territory of Delhi. The litigations arising abroad will be attended to by the Indian Missions abroad.

#### 19. POWER TO RELAX

Department of Disability Affairs may, at its discretion, make necessary changes in the provisions of this scheme, as and when felt necessary, with the approval of Secretary(DA) in consultation with the Financial Adviser concerned.

#### 20. REVIEW OF THE SCHEME

Review of the scheme can be undertaken by the Department of Disability Affairs as and when felt necessary.

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**Annexure-I****List of identified subject/disciplines under the Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Studetns with Disabilities**

Sl. No.	Name of the field of study	Subjects included in the field of study
1	Engineering and Medicine	1. Bio-technology / Genetic Engineering 2. Industrial Environmental Engineering 3. Nano-technology 4. Marine Engineering 5. Petro-Chemical Engineering 6. Plastic Technology 7. Cryogenic Engineering 8. Mechatronics 9. Automation Robotics in including Artificial Intelligence 10. Laser Technology 11. Radiology 12. Low Temperature Thermal Dynamics 13. Dock and Harbor Engineering 14. Imaging System Technology 15. Composite Materials Engineering including Decentralised Power Distribution (for Solar Heat) system, Energy Storage Engineering, Energy Conservation, Energy Efficient Habitat Engineering 16. Packaging Engineering./Technology 17. Nuclear Engineering 18. Information Technology including Computer Engineering, Software, Software Quality Assurance, Networking/Connectivity Engineering, Communication System under Hazardous or Post- disaster conditions, Multi-media Communication 20. Industrial Safety Engineering 21. Neurology 22. Pediatrics

