

SCHEME OF SUPPORT TO VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

The Programme of Action (POA) to operationalise National Policy on Education, 1986, inter-alia, envisaged development of a genuine partnership between the Government and non- Government Organizations (NGOs) and stipulated that government would take positive steps to promote their wider involvement in eradication of illiteracy by providing due support to them. To promote Adult Education, particularly in 15-35 age group, through voluntary sector, the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, has been providing support to Voluntary Agencies (VA) through two separate schemes, namely (i) Assistance to Voluntary Agencies in the field of Adult Education and (ii) Jan Shikshan Sansthan. The former is conceptualised as an overarching programme to encourage innovation and creativity in literacy and continuing education. It includes establishment of State Resource Centers for technical and academic support to adult education. Jan Shikshan Sansthan, on the other hand, provide vocational education skill development training to those having no or rudimentary level of education.

The Government have now decided to merge both the schemes and rename the modified scheme as “**Scheme of Support to Voluntary Agencies for Adult Education and Skill Development**” and continue to support the Voluntary Agencies on project to project basis. Thus the new scheme subsumes the erstwhile NGO based schemes of the National Literacy Mission. Besides revised parameters, enhanced financial assistance has been provided under some of the components of the revised scheme. The scheme will be administered through a new set of

guidelines and terms & conditions, as specified by the Government from time to time.

2. SCHEME OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the scheme is to secure extensive, as well as, intensive involvement of voluntary sector in the endeavours of the Government to promote functional literacy, skill development and continuing education, particularly in 15-35 age group, under the over all umbrella of National Literacy Mission (NLM). The Scheme will, thus, strive to achieve, **through voluntary effort**, the overall objectives of NLM, which include:

- i. Achieving self-reliance in literacy and numeracy
- ii. Becoming aware of the causes of their deprivation and moving towards amelioration of their condition through organization and participation in the process of development
- iii. Acquiring skills to improve the economic status and general well being
- iv. Imbibing the values of national integration, conservation of the environment women's equality, observance of small family norms, etc.

3. COMPONENTS

The Scheme encompasses of 3 components, namely, **State Resource Centers, Jan Shikshan Sansthan** and **Assistance to Voluntary Agencies**.

3.1 State Resource Centers

i. Introduction

The State Resource Center(s) (SRCs) are mandated to provide academic and technical resource support to adult and continuing education through development and production of material and training modules. In addition SRC would be

required to conduct motivational and environmental building, action research and evaluation and monitoring.

ii. Scope of Work

The Scope of Work of the State Resource Center(s) broadly includes the following:

- Preparation of teaching learning and training material for Adult Education programme
- Training literacy Functionaries
- Action Research
- Evaluation and monitoring of literacy projects
- Undertaking innovative projects to identify future needs Adult Education programme
- Any other function incidental to accomplishment of the overall objectives of the NLM or specifically assigned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India.

iii. Categorisation of State Resource Centers

The State Resource Centers, based on the workload and size of their programme in the area of their jurisdiction, are categorized into two categories, namely, **Category 'A'** and **Category 'B'**. Different quantum of assistance has been provided for each category.

iv. Upgradation of State Resource Centers

The scheme provides for the up gradation of a SRC from category 'B' to category 'A' based on their performance against the criteria of (a) years of experience (b) academic performance in the area of material development, training research and evaluation, (c) special achievements (d) assessment of the external evaluation agency. Weightage will be given for the above criteria and based on the scores obtained, a SRC may be

upgraded. **7 SRCs will be upgraded during the 11th Five Year Plan period** and the process of upgradation will be initiated from the FY 2009-10. During 2009-10 and 2010-11, 2 SRCs in each year will be upgraded. For the following year, 3 SRCs will be upgraded.

v. New State Resource Centers

Under the programme **14 new State Resource Centers in Category 'B' will be set up**. While setting up the new State Resource Centers, priority will be given to States that do not have any SRC but where literacy levels, as per 2001 census, is below the national average. States with more than 20 districts would be facilitated to set up one additional State Resource Center, while States with more than 30 districts would be eligible for a total of 3 State resource Centers. In exceptional circumstances proposals from other States may also be considered. **The process of establishment of the newly sanctioned State Resource Centers will commence from the financial year 2009-10**. 4 new SRCs will be set up during 2009-10 and 5 each during 2010-11 and 2011-12.

vi. Pattern of Financial Assistance

The State Resource Centers will be provided an annual **recurring** grant for Programme, Emoluments and Office Expenses, in the ratio of 45:45:10 as follows:

BUDGET HEAD	CATEGORY 'A' Rs. Lakhs	CATEGORY 'B' (Rs. Lakhs)
Programmes	45	31.5
Emoluments	45	31.5
Office Expenses	10	07.0
TOTAL	100	70

The SRCs will have the flexibility in the number of staff appointed subject to the condition that they will be eligible for enhanced financial support only on adoption of the ratio of 70:30 in the appointment of academic and support staff. Depending on the need and availability of funds, one time infrastructure grant of Rs 50 Lakhs may also be provided only to the new State Resource Centers. Though during the FY 2008-09, the SRCs will continue to receive reimbursement of expenditure incurred on Population Development Education activities, from 2009-10 erstwhile PDE activities and staff of a State Resource Center will be subsumed in its general activities and staffing and no separate funds will be provided for this activity/staff.

vii. Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Capacity building

Directorate of Adult Education, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resources, Government of India, will be responsible for planning, monitoring, evaluation and capacity building of all the SRCs.

3.2 Jan Shikshan Sansthan

i. Introduction

Jan Shikshan Sansthans (JSSs) are established to provide vocational training to non-literate, neo-literate, as well as school drop outs by identifying skills as would have a market in the region of their establishment.

ii. Scope of Work

The Scope of Work of **Jan Shikshan Sansthans (JSSs)** will include the following:

- Develop/ Source appropriate curriculum and training modules covering vocational elements general awareness and life enrichment components.
- Wherever possible, JSS are encouraged to undertake training equivalent to courses designed by the

Directorate of Adult education, National Institute of Open Schooling and Director General Employment & Training.

- Provide training to a pool of resource persons and master trainers for conducting training as also availability of infrastructure and training – specific equipment.
- Administer simple tests and award certificates
- Network with employers and industries for trainees to get suitable placements.

iii. Categorisation of Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSSs)

Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSSs), have been categorized into three categories, namely, **Category ‘A’**, **Category ‘B’** and **Category ‘C’**. Different quantum of assistance has been provided for each category.

iv. Upgradation of Jan Shikshan Sansthan

The scheme does not provide for upgradation of one category of JSS to another.

v. New Jan Shikshan Sansthan

During 2008-09, 50 additional JSSs, in Category ‘C’, will be set up under this scheme on the new parameters and financial pattern.

vi. Pattern of Financial Assistance

For the Financial Year 2008-09, assistance will be provided at the pre-revised scales. With effect from 1-04-09, till the validity of this scheme, all the JSSs will be provided enhanced* assistance, at the revised rates, as follows:

BUDGET HEAD	CATEGORY ‘A’ Rs. Lakhs	CATEGORY ‘B’ (Rs. Lakhs)	CATEGORY ‘c’ (Rs. Lakhs)
Recurring (Total)	40	35	30
Emoluments	16	15	13
Programme	19	15	13

Office Expenses	5	5	4
Non- Recurring (for infrastructure and equipments)	One time grant of Rs. 15 Lakhs only to the <u>NEW</u> JSSs .		

**This increase of Rs. 5 Lakhs will be exclusively for the programmes.*

vii. Monitoring and Evaluation

Directorate of Adult Education, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resources, Government of India/ National Literacy Mission will be responsible for Monitoring and Evaluation.

3.3 Assistance to Voluntary Agencies

i. Introduction

Proposals from Voluntary Agencies, under this component, will be considered on project to project basis.

ii. Scope of Work

Assistance to Voluntary Agencies will be considered for undertaking projects of basic literacy/post literacy/continuing education and other projects relevant to accomplishment of overall activities of the Scheme. The projects aimed at eradication of illiteracy would include Total Literacy Campaigns (TLCs)/Post Literacy Campaigns (PLCs) and projects aimed at self directed continuing education in the perspective of lifelong learning through establishment of continuing education centers and launching of target specific need based and innovative programme such as Equivalency Programmes, Quality of Life Improvement Programmes (QLIP) and Individual Interest Promotion Programmes (IIPP).

iii. Number of Projects to be Assisted

Number of Projects that may be assisted under this Programme are not pre- determined shall be dependent on the financial resources available with the Ministry.

iv. Pattern of Financial Assistance

The financial assistance shall be provided to VAs on project to project basis. The projects and budget submitted by the VAs will be examined and considered by the Grant-in-Aid Committee(GIAC) and financial assistance provided to the VAs as approved by the GIAC.

v. Monitoring and Evaluation

Directorate of Adult Education, Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resources, Government of India/ National Literacy Mission will be responsible for Monitoring and Evaluation

4. ELIGIBILITY

All the three programme of the Scheme are open to only such Public charitable Trusts, not –for- profit companies registered under 25 c of Companies Act and registered Societies as would meet the eligibility criteria fixed by the Government of India.

5. DURATION OF THE SCHEME

The scheme shall be in operation till 31-3-2012, unless decided otherwise by the Government of India.

6. GUIDELINES

Detailed Guidelines, including, mode of application, selection procedure, monitoring & evaluation and comprehensive Terms & Conditions etc shall be issued separately.