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Notification

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A scheme called "the Goa Financial Assistance towards fees for various courses under Higher and Technical Education Scheme, 2014" known as the "Bursary Scheme" has been approved by the Government of Goa and taken up for notification to the public.

Vinayak Kurtikar, Under Secretary (Higher Education).

Porvorim, 27th February, 2014.

"THE BURSARY SCHEME"

1. Objective of the scheme.— Quality Higher Education is the area of concern for the State Government. The Right to Education (RTE), Act, 2005 implemented countrywide, basically focuses on Primary and Secondary Education. The Government of Goa has a laudable objective of Universalizing Higher and Technical Education in the State, thereby raising the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) to around 45 from the present 32.2. It is desired that Higher and Technical Education does not become the privilege of the selected few.

With this sole objective in mind, scheme for the grant of financial assistance towards the fees paid for various courses under Higher and Technical Education has been formulated.

2. Short title and commencement.— (1) The scheme may be called, "The Goa Financial Assistance towards fees for various courses under Higher and Technical Education Scheme, 2014" also known as the "Bursary Scheme".

(2) This scheme shall come into effect from the Academic Year, 2014-15.

3. General conditions.— (1) Students pursuing College (Higher and Professional) Education in the State of Goa including post graduation shall be eligible to receive the benefits under the Bursary Scheme, provided they meet the eligibility criteria laid down in scheme.

(2) The actual grant would be calculated on the basis of the fees paid for each of the course/program and will be limited to the payment of fees and other charges given to the College/Institution.

(3) The concerned student shall pay the requisite fees for the course that he/she pursues. The eligible quantum of fees shall be

reimbursed to him through direct transfer to his Bank Account.

(4) In order to be a beneficiary under the scheme, the student should have completed his Std. Xth and XIIth and graduation in case of post graduation students from an institution in Goa. For benefit under the scheme, in case of post graduate course, the requirement of graduate degree from college/university from Goa, will be relaxed for degree from Central University, NIIT, IIT, IIM & other statutorily created institutions.

(5) The institutions where the student pursues his studies should be affiliated to Goa University and recognized by Directorate of Higher Education/Directorate of Technical Education, for the purpose of this scheme. However, the students studying in Government of India institutions located in Goa conducting Higher or Technical Education courses/programmes, who are found eligible as per clause 3(4) above shall also be considered for availing benefit under the scheme.

(6) Those students availing the benefits under the Bursary Scheme shall not be eligible to avail similar benefits under any other schemes of Government of Goa. The students would however be permitted to exercise their choice of the scheme(s) to avail similar benefits.

(7) Scheme will be operated through Goa Education Development Corporation. This will also ensure cross checking so that Interest Free Loan Scheme beneficiary do not claim under this scheme and vice-versa.

4. Financial Assistance under the Bursary Scheme.— (1) All the graduate and post graduate students, the annual income of both parent(s)/guardian taken together is less than Rupees three lakhs, shall be eligible to receive benefits under the Bursary Scheme.

(2) The maximum amount of grant shall be restricted to Rs. 40,000/- per annum.

(3) Only those cases where the total course/ /programme fees do not exceed Rs. 60,000/per annum shall be considered under this scheme.

(4) Those with course fees above Rs. 60,000/may approach the GEDC for loans under Interest Free Loan scheme.

5. Funding for the Bursary Scheme.— (1) The Funding of the scheme shall be through interest on the "The Bursary Scheme Corpus Fund" specially created for the purpose and maintained by GEDC.

(2) The Bursary Scheme Corpus Fund shall be created by means of an initial allotment of funds amounting to Rupees two crores, by way of budgetary provisions made for this purpose and such additional grants on annual basis.

(3) There will be annual allotments to the fund till the ultimate target is met. This target will be decided by the Government. In addition to the annual allotment being made by the Government; voluntary contributions to the Funds by Industrialists, Philanthropists, various institutional or individual donors as well as from the public shall also be accepted. The repayments being done by the beneficiary students (though it is not compulsory) when they start working and are gainfully employed will be credited to the Fund.

(4) The Fund will be managed for growth by a Committee headed by Secretary (Education) and consisting of following members:—

(1) Chairman, GEDC.

(2) Two other Members to be nominated by the Government.

(3) Director, Technical Education.

(4) Director, Higher Education — Member Secretary.

All applications received under the Scheme shall be placed before the Fund Management

Committee mentioned at 4 above for sanction//refusal if any.

6. Repayment by beneficiary students.— (1) The beneficiary students, after being gainfully employed may refund the benefit and will be encouraged to do so.

(2) The beneficiary student may also contribute to the Fund any additional amount as per his/her desire.

7. Procedure for application.— (1) The eligible students shall submit their applications in the prescribed format alongwith the required documents to the Head of the institution where they are pursuing their courses within fifteen days of the commencement of the academic year. The Head of the institution shall scrutinize all such applications and submit a consolidated list alongwith applications to the Goa Education Development Corporation within 45 days from the commencement of the course of the respective academic year.

(2) The following documents are required to be submitted alongwith the application form:

(*i*) Std. X and Std. XII Passing Certificate and Marksheets of Goa Board of Secondary & Higher Secondary Education/any other board, provided school is located in Goa. In addition to X & XII certificates, graduation passing Certificate and Marksheets of the relevant academic year of the graduation course for students pursuing post graduate courses/programmes.

(*ii*) Proof of annual income i.e. any one of the following:—

(a) Form No. 16 issued by the employer in case of parent(s) who are employed. In case both parents are employed then documents of both parents should be submitted. In case of only one of the parent is working self attested certificate of another parent on 50 Rs NON Judicial stamp paper would be sufficient. (This document need not be notarized).

(b) Income Tax returns of the previous year in case of parent(s) having business or any other profession;

(c) Income Certificate issued by Competent Authority in case of others.

(*iii*) Proof of Admission to the course/ /programme and Bonafide student Certificate issued by the Head of Institution.

(*iv*) Fee Receipts issued by the institution or Fee Structure duly certified by the Head of Institution.

8. Procedure for payments under the Bursary Scheme.— (a) The applications received by the Goa Education Development Corporation shall be placed before the committee for sanction within 30 days of the receipt of the same and after its sanction, the amount will be transferred in the account of the students under Direct Benefit Transfer Pattern.

(b) The application would be scrutinized and recommended for sanction based on merit (marks obtained by the candidate in last qualifying exam) *vis-à-vis* the parental income so as to meet the requirements of "Need" as well as "Merit".

(c) The disbursement will be made as per the availability of funds in the budgetary provision made for the financial year corresponding to the academic year concerned.

(d) The benefits under this scheme shall not be available to those who are availing financial benefits under any other scheme of Government of Goa.

9. Removal of difficulties.— The Government shall be empowered to remove any difficulty which arises out of implementation of this Bursary Scheme with prior approval of Finance Department. 10. *Relaxation.*— The Government shall be empowered to relax any or all the conditions or clauses of the Bursary Scheme in genuine cases subject to the recommendation made in this regard by the Funds Committee constituted in clause 5 above.

11. Interpretation.— Question if any, regarding interpretation of any clause, word, expression of the Bursary Scheme, the decision

shall lie with the Government, which shall be final and binding on all concerned.

12. Redressal of Grievances and Disputes.— Grievances if any, arising out of the implementation of this scheme, shall be heard and decided by the Minister for Higher Education and the decision of the Minister for Higher Education in this regard shall be final and binding on all concerned.

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