

F.No.28-2/2013-NIs
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Deptt. of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex,
New Delhi the 1st August, 2018

Subject: Scheme for Financial Assistance for the existing Deaf Colleges in five regions of the Country

The Scheme for Financial Assistance is a Central Sector Scheme for providing financial assistance to **existing deaf colleges** in the following five zones of the country including one in North East:

- i) Rural Development and Management College for the Deaf (RDMC) in North Zone of India
- ii) College for the Deaf in West Zone
- iii) Colleges for Deaf in South Zone
- iv) College for Deaf in Central Zone
- v) College for Deaf in East Zone

2. Objectives of the Scheme:

The objective of the Scheme is to provide financial assistance to the existing deaf colleges in the above said five zones of the country. In case, suitable colleges fulfilling the requisite criteria for obtaining grants-in-aid under the Scheme is not found, Deptt. would have the flexibility to identify two deaf Colleges in one zone fulfilling the requisite criteria for obtaining grants-in-aid under the Scheme. The Scheme was originally approved on 29.1.2015 with the objective to provide equal opportunities to hearing impaired students for pursuing higher education and improving their chances of employability and better quality life through higher education and the revised modification on 29.12.2017 for the period 2017-18 to 2019-20.

3. Scheme/Guidelines/Conditions

- i) The Scheme envisages financial assistance to College affiliated only to the UGC approved State/Central/UT administered college in each of the five regions of the country. The proposal would be recommended by the State/UT Government.
- ii) Maximum assistance under the Scheme for expansion of infrastructure and purchase of furniture/aids/equipment is restricted to Rs.1.50 crore in each case. In case, the expenditure is less than Rs. 1.50 crore, the admissible assistance will be on actual cost. In North Eastern region (including Sikkim), the maximum assistance is Rs.2.00 crore. In case, the expenditure incurred is less than Rs.2.00 crores, assistance will be on actual cost.

iii) Regarding recurring expenditure under the Scheme in the form of reimbursement on payment of salary to the teaching staff and sign language interpreter, a maximum ceiling is fixed at Rs.1.00 crore or on the actual basis. In case of college sponsored by North East Region including Sikkim or UT of Andaman & Nicobar and Lakshadweep Island, a maximum ceiling is fixed at Rs.1.50 crore or on the actual basis. This grant for recurring expenditure will be initially only for two years i.e. 2018-2019 and 2019-2020.

(iv) The applicant institution/college should possess clear title on the land free from all legal encumbrances required for setting up the proposed/existing college. In case, the land is obtained on lease hold, the tenure of the lease deed should be for a period of not less than 50 years.

v) The Department will invite applications from interested institutions from five regions of the country for establishment of college under the Scheme. All proposals shall be routed through State/UT Government concerned and would require recommendations of the State/UT Government concerned. Colleges willing to offer skill based graduation courses focusing on five or more than five of the elective courses indicated under the North, Central, South and East Zones and two or more than two courses from Digital Media, Graphic Design, Photography and Theatre Arts for the College in West Zone will be eligible to apply for the Scheme.

(vi) Before applying for assistance for the building project, the Institution/College should constitute a Building Committee with the following members:

- a. The Principal/Teacher-in-charge of the College.
- b. A representative from the affiliating University
- c. A representative from the CPWD/PWD/Zila Parishad/Corporation etc. (not below the rank of Executive Engineer).
- d. Two representatives from the teachers of the college.
- e. A representative from user-teaching department
- f. A representative each from administration and accounts division.
- g. The Architect engaged by the College. The persons/ or Architect firm should be registered with the Council of Architecture.

(vii) The Building Committee will be responsible for finalizing the plans and estimates of the building for the proposed college and also for ensuring the completion of the construction of the building in accordance with the approved plans and estimates. Besides, it will also be responsible for the proper utilization of the funds received from the Central Government and from the college, out of its own resources.

(viii) The construction activity should be completed within 1 year from date of release of funds and that the responsibility for monitoring/progress of building project shall lie with the State/UT Government and to furnish the utilization certificate of the assistance sanctioned within the period prescribed in the sanction letter.

ix) After the Building Committee has resolved to take up the college building project with Central Assistance, the concerned institution/college shall submit the proposal to

this Department through State /UT Government with the following documents for approval of the Department (Central Govt.).

- (a) Composition of the Building Committee.
- (b) A copy of the Building Committee resolution indicating name of the college, name of the building project, type of building, the area covered in sq. meters, cost per square meter, basis of estimates, latest schedule of rates, period of completion of the proposed college building, likely date of starting the construction and mode of construction i.e. State PWD/CPWD or by college itself or through contractor/private construction agencies. The resolution shall bear the signature of the members present in the meeting of the committee and shall be duly verified by the Principal of the College.
- (c) Detailed estimates duly signed by the Principal and qualified engineer/Architect. Building Plan duly prepared and signed by a qualified engineer/ registered architect and countersigned by the Principal/ Teacher-in-charge Building project certificates.
- (d) Detailed of the classes/courses proposed to be run for socio-economic development of the hearing impaired students.
- (x) The proposals received in the Department from institutes/colleges through the States/Union Territories Governments shall be processed by the Department and submit them to the Screening Committee comprising the following composition:

JS (DD)	Chairperson
JS&FA (D/o EPwD)	Member
Director, AYJNIHH	Member
A representative of UGC	Member
A representative from HRD	Member
Director/DS, DEPwDs	Member Secretary
- (xi) The Screening Committee shall examine all its proposals and submit its recommendations to Secretary (DEPwDs).
- (xii) After approval of Secretary (DEPwDs), the admissible assistance shall be released/approval shall be conveyed to the applicant institution/college.
- (xiii) All proposals seeking grants-in-aid would be routed through the State/UT Government concerned and would require recommendation of the State/UT Governments concerned. The total ceiling of the financial assistance is proposed to be fixed at Rs.1.50 crores and Rs.2.00 crores (for NE) therefore, State/UT government shall not recommend proposal for establishing new college.
- (xiv) The Central Government may nominate any Officer, not below the rank of Director/Deputy Secretary to the Government of India, as its representative on the Board of Administration or any other equivalent body, responsible for the management

of the college. It would be the responsibility of the concerned college to invite such nominated Officer in all meetings of the Board of Administration (or equivalent).

(xv) The assisted College shall not dispose of or lease out or create any charge over the assets created by utilizing the assistance provided under this Scheme, without written permission from Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

(xvi) The assisted College shall not change the form or the basic character of the college without prior approval of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.

(xvii) The assisted college shall be required to run classes for graduation level for the hearing impaired students every year with all required aids/appliances and sign language interpreters.

(xviii) The financial assistance provided under the Scheme for construction of college and for fixture, furniture, computers etc. would be of non-recurring and capital nature.

(xix) The accounts of the assisted college shall be audited every year and the assisted college shall be required to submit annual report along with the financial statement to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The Annual Report would include the details of the construction activities, procurement of equipment/furniture, fixture, computers etc. during the year from the financial assistance provided by the Central Government and also the details of students taught in different subjects, classes as well as details of the successful hearing impaired students during the year.

(xx) The assisted college shall be required to maintain a fixed assets register of equipment/assets procured from the Central assistance and separate records containing details of the faculty members, staff sign language interpreters and administrators paid salaries/allowances by the utilizing grant funds, for verification by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities at any time.

(xxi) The requirement of faculty, staff etc. for running the Deaf College for which financial assistance is provided shall be as per UGC affiliation norms/registration under RCI. Details of Courses and faculty including student-faculty ratio in the institutions being funded would be as per MOU to be signed between the Department and institutions, before sanction of project.

(xxii) In case of failure to utilize the sanctioned funds within time or its misuse, misappropriation or diversion of volition of any one or more of the conditions mentioned above, the Government will be entitled to recover the entire assistance amount with interest, in addition to taking such other legal and/or penal action, as deemed necessary.

(xxiii) Colleges/Institutions shall submit their audited account/annual report for the last two year at the time of applying GIA under the Scheme to assess their physical and financial performance.

(xxiv) The accounts of the project shall be properly and separately maintained. They shall always be opened to check by an Officer deputed by the Government of India or the State Government. They shall also be opened to a test check by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India at his discretion. The account will be liable to be audited as per GFR provisions.

(xxv) If the Central Government or State Government has reason to believe that the grant is not being utilized for approved purpose, the Government of India may stop payment of further installments and recover earlier grant in such manner as they may decide.

(xxvi) The institute shall exercise reasonable economy in its working and particularly in respect of expenditure on building.

(xxvii) No change in the Plan of building, the construction will be made without the prior approval of the Government of India.

(xxviii) Progress reports on the project will be furnished at regular intervals as may be specified by the Government.

(xxix) Organization shall open a separate Bank account for this Scheme and furnish necessary documents at the time for applying for 2nd installment like Statement of Accounts, Audited reports etc in full and in the prescribed format (consolidated and for the project). The audit report complete in every respect and to include, (a) Auditor's Report (b) Balance Sheet (c) Income & Expenditure Statement (d) Item-wise expenditure statement (e) Receipts & Payment Statement will all supporting schedule on fixed assets, investment, current assets, current liabilities, significant accounting policies and Note on account and the action taken/proposed to be taken by Org on the audit observations.

(xxx) The organization/institution receiving grants under this Scheme shall submit Utilization Certificates (UCs) at the end of financial year as prescribed in GFR19-A. Copy of the format is at Annexure-I.

(xxxi) Applicant college may strictly to make all payments only through cheque/electronic transfer and not in cash. These transactions may be duly incorporated in the audited accounts of the project.

(xxxii) Interest component on GIA released in advance may also be utilized for the project and shall be adjusted in the next installment of grants-in-aid.

(xxxiii) The Central Government may also prescribe such other conditions, as deemed necessary, before sanction/release of assistance.

(xxxiv) In case, suitable college fulfilling the requisite criteria for obtaining grants-in-aid under the Scheme is not found, Department would have the flexibility to identify two colleges in one zone fulfilling the requisite criteria for obtaining grants-in-aid under the proposed Scheme.

(xxxv) The colleges receiving GIA in advance shall also provide necessary bonds.

Total Cost of the proposed Scheme for F.Y. 2018-19 to 2019-20

The total projected cost of the Scheme for the period of Fourteenth Finance Commission i.e., 2018-19 to 2019-20 is given in the table below:

Item of expenditure	2018-19	2019-20
Up gradation of existing infrastructure/purchase of office aids/equipment	Non-Recurring Cost: Estimated total requirement is Rs.5.00 cores , subject to proposals in conformity to the guidelines are received under the Scheme. (Rs.1.5 x 2 = Rs.3.00 crore for colleges in two zones and Rs.2.00 crore for College in North East)	Non-Recurring Cost: Estimated total requirement is Rs.1.50 core , subject to proposals in conformity to the guidelines are received under the Scheme. (Rs.1.50 x 1 = 1.50 crore for colleges in one zone)
Reimbursement on account of salaries/allowance of faculty/sign language interpreters.	Recurring Cost: Estimated requirement is Rs.1.00 crore Recurring fund requirement is subject to change and depends on the number of proposals approved in the year.	Recurring Cost: Estimated requirement is Rs.4.00 crores towards reimbursement of salary and allowances of staff and sign language interpreters. Recurring Fund requirement is subject to change and depends on the number of proposals approved in the year.
Total estimated funds requirement (Recurring + Non-Recurring)	Rs.6.00 crore	Rs.5.50 crore

* The uppermost financial ceiling under this scheme is Rs.1.5 crore (Rest of India) and Rs.2.00 crore (North East Region). The expenditure over and above the prescribed upper ceiling will be borne by the Institute or the concerned State Government/UT Administration.