

फ. सं./ F. No. 18-06/2021-DD-III  
भारत सरकार / Government of India  
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment  
दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग  
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

पाँचवा तल, पंडित दीनदयाल अंत्योदय भवन  
5th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan,  
सी जी ओ कॉम्प्लेक्स, लोधी रोड, नई दिल्ली -110003  
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003  
दिनांक / Dated: 31.05.2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject: Minutes of Eighth Meeting of the Governing Body of National Fund for Persons with Disabilities held on 29.05.2023 at 03:00 P.M. – reg.**

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of the minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Governing Body of National Fund for Persons with Disabilities held on 29.05.2023 at 03:00 P.M. under the Chairmanship of Secretary, DePwD cum Chairperson Governing Body, National Fund for Persons with Disabilities for information and necessary action.

  
(अमित श्रीवास्तव/ Amit Srivastava)

अवर सचिव भारत सरकार/ Under Secretary to the Govt of India

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1. Shri Sanjay Pandey, JS&FA, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
2. JS & CEO, National Trust, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi
3. Shri Purnendu Kishore Banerjee, JS, D/o Higher Education, M/o Education.
4. Shri Vijay Kumar Meena, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment
5. Shri Ajeetsingh Mahavirsingh Shekhawat, Shekhawat Dagra & Associates, B-320, Swagat Rain Forest-II, Kudasan, Gandhinagar-382421, Gujarat
6. Dr. Sri Govindraj, No. 86, Harvey Paddi, Tirupuramkuntram, Madurai, Tamil Nadu-625005

Copy to:

- i. Sr. PPS to Secretary, DEPwD
- ii. JS (RY)

issued  
31.05.2023

**Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Governing Body under National Fund for Persons with Disabilities held under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, DEPwD – cum – Chairperson, Governing Body on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at 3:00 pm**

List of participants is at Annex.

2. Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, DEPwD – cum – Chairperson, Governing Body welcomed the participants and requested Shri Rajesh Yadav, Joint Secretary & CEO to make a presentation on the agenda points for consideration of the Governing Body.

3. Agenda-wise decisions taken by the Governing Body (GB) is summarized below:-

**3.1 Agenda 1 - Proposed new components in the existing scheme guidelines.**

S.No.	New Component	Details of eligibility etc.
1.	Strengthening STEM labs for class XI, XII especially for Blind/Deaf/ID Schools under National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and CBSE/ICSE and other Central/State school boards – having minimum 10 Children with Special Needs (CwSN) students passing class 10 <sup>th</sup> . For Inclusive schools, there should be minimum 50 CwSN, and minimum 10 PwD students passing 10 <sup>th</sup> exam	<p>After detailed deliberations, the GB approved the following:</p> <p><b>Eligibility –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blind/Deaf/ID Schools under National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and CBSE/ICSE and other Central/State school boards –minimum 10 CwSN students passing class 10<sup>th</sup></li> <li>Inclusive schools - minimum 50 CwSN, and minimum 10 PwD students passing 10<sup>th</sup> exam</li> </ul> <p><b>Provision –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One time Grant-in-aid not exceeding Rs. 5 lakh or 75% of actual expenditure, whichever is less, to each of such schools (maximum 100 schools in a financial year) for creating STEM labs in classes 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The amount will be incurred on creation of lab facilities (building infrastructure not included).</li> <li>Grant will be released in two equal installments. Second installment will be released on receipt of utilization certificates, supporting receipts, certificate from Head of the School etc.</li> </ul>

S.No.	New Component	Details of eligibility etc.
		<p><b>How to apply –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Schools under NIOS/CBSE/ICSE/other Central Boards</b> - Proposal will be submitted to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.</li> <li>• <b>Schools under State Boards and Inclusive Schools</b> - Proposal will be submitted to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.</li> <li>• Head of the School will be required to submit the final bills, utilization certificates etc. within 15 days of the conclusion of the event.</li> </ul> <p><b>Approving Authority–</b> The Governing Body shall be the competent authority to approve the proposal.</p>
2.	<p>Travel, boarding and lodging of athletes, coaches and escorts for participation in sports events organized by the Center for Disability Sports.</p>	<p>GB approved the following:</p> <p><b>Purpose –</b> In order to popularize the Center for Disability Sports (CDS), travel, boarding and lodging of athletes with disabilities, escorts (wherever required) and coaches will be financially supported from the National Fund.</p> <p><b>Eligibility –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial support will be considered on recommendation of the Director, CDS.</li> <li>• To encourage participation of persons with disabilities, there shall be no income limit for participation in the CDS events till 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Governing Body will review the said time limit subsequently.</li> <li>• Applicant must not have obtained or applied for financial assistance for the same event from any other source. A certificate will be submitted to this effect along with the application.</li> <li>• Financial support will be given only once in a financial year to an individual.</li> <li>• Financial Assistance will initially be available only till 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Governing Body will</li> </ul>

S.No.	New Component	Details of eligibility etc.
		<p>review the said time limit subsequently.</p> <p><b>Extent of Financial Assistance –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel –AC 2 tier train fare. However, air travel in economy class will be allowed in case duration of the train journey is 12 hours or more.</li> <li>• Boarding and lodging – On actual basis or Rs 2500/- per day, whichever is less.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note</b> - One escort will be allowed on the recommendation of the medical authority.</p> <p><b>How to apply –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director CDS will submit the proposal to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.</li> <li>• CDS will be required to submit the final bills, utilization certificates etc. within 15 days of the conclusion of the event.</li> </ul> <p><b>Approving Authority–</b> The Governing Body shall be the competent authority to approve the proposal.</p>

**Note:** Revised Guidelines will be issued separately as per approval of the Governing Body.

### 3.2 Agenda 2- Fresh Proposals

The decisions of the GB in respect of the fresh proposals are as under:

Sl No.	Proposal details	Comments of the Department		Recommendation
		Eligibility criteria prescribed in guidelines	Whether criteria fulfilled	
1	Viklang Sahara Samiti Delhi – for organizing workshop/exhibiti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration not less than 3 years</li> <li>• Experience</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Yes</li> </ul>	The GB approved financial grant amounting to Rs. 10 lakh or actual

Sl No.	Proposal details	Comments of the Department		Recommendation
		Eligibility criteria prescribed in guidelines	Whether criteria fulfilled	
	<p>on at Delhi Haat, Pitampura of items made by PwDs of Delhi.</p> <p>Fund sought – 11 lakh</p> <p>Event Date – Sep 2023</p>	<p>of not less than 2 years</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purpose – Exhibition/workshop</li> <li>• Not obtained financial assistance for the same purpose (certificate to be attached).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Certificate not submitted.</li> </ul> <p>Amount limit – 10 lakh</p>	<p>expenditure incurred, whichever is less subject to submission of a certificate by the organization that financial assistance has not been obtained from any other source for the same purpose.</p> <p>It was suggested that the organization may consider the possibility of increasing the TA of Rs. 1000 proposed in the instant proposal.</p>
2	<p><b>Sarthak Educational Trust</b> for grant to organize regional workshop of exhibition</p> <p>i. Mumbai on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2023.</p> <p><b>Fund sought - Rs. 10,00,000/-</b></p> <p>ii. Delhi - on 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.</p> <p><b>Fund sought - Rs. 20,75,000/-</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration not less than 3 years</li> <li>• Experience of not less than 2 years</li> <li>• Purpose – Exhibition/workshop</li> <li>• Not obtained financial assistance for the same purpose (certificate to be attached).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Certificate not submitted</li> </ul> <p>Amount limit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 Lakh (State level)</li> <li>• 15 Lakh (Regional level)</li> <li>• 20 Lakh (National level)</li> </ul>	<p>GB noted that in terms of the guidelines, funding can be considered only for one of the proposed events as both are scheduled in the same current financial year. It was also noted that the total budget submitted in the proposal which is a national level event is Rs. 20,75,000/-. However, the limit prescribed for the national level event in the guidelines is Rs. 20,00,000/-.</p> <p>Therefore, the GB approved financial grant amounting to Rs. 20 lakh or actual expenditure incurred, whichever is less, for event proposed to be held in Delhi in December 2023.</p>

Sl No.	Proposal details	Comments of the Department		Recommendation
		Eligibility criteria prescribed in guidelines	Whether criteria fulfilled	
				The grant will however be subject to submission of a certificate by the organization that financial assistance has not been obtained from any other source for the same purpose.
3	National Abilympic Association of India (NAAI) – to host International Abilympics Vocational Skill Competitions designed for PwDs in 2027. Fund sought is Rs.15,47,50,000/-	Not covered under the guidelines	-	<p>GB discussed the proposal as a special case. The proposal has sought funding for hosting of next edition of International Abilympics Vocational Skill Competitions in India in 2027.</p> <p>It was noted that previously India hosted the said competition in the year 2003 by the NAAI. On that occasion, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment were also engaged with the process. The budget for the said event was reported to be Rs. 3 crore.</p> <p>It was informed that Sarthak Educational Trust is handling the NAAI matters.</p> <p>The GB further noted that since the hosting of 2003 event, new Ministries/Departments have been created such as DEPwD and Ministry</p>

Sl No.	Proposal details	Comments of the Department		Recommendation
		Eligibility criteria prescribed in guidelines	Whether fulfilled criteria	
				<p>of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. As the event also concerns other aspects in addition to the disability, it was felt that engagement of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Ministry of Education in the process would be appropriate to make the event more inclusive.</p> <p>The GB was informed that guidelines provide for a funding of Rs. 5 crore to States /UTs for holding purple fest at national level.</p> <p>Taking the above into consideration, the GB recommended Rs. 5 crore or 50% whichever is less, out of total budget mentioned which is over Rs. 15 crore.</p> <p>It was also decided that the said financial grant will be subject to the condition that NAAI will give undertaking regarding remaining funding also.</p> <p>NAAI was also advised to hold consultations with Ministries of Skill Development and</p>

Sl No.	Proposal details	Comments of the Department		Recommendation
		Eligibility criteria prescribed in guidelines	Whether criteria fulfilled	
				Entrepreneurship & Education.
4	<p>ALPANA – for organizing of exhibition in India International Centre, New Delhi on 18th and 19th November, 2023 to showcase products including handicrafts, paintings made by PwDs and for holding workshop on handicrafts making and paintings.</p> <p><b>Fund sought - Rs. 20,00,000/-</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Registration not less than 3 years</li> <li>Experience of not less than 2 years</li> <li>Purpose – Exhibition/ workshop</li> <li>Not obtained financial assistance for the same purpose (certificate to be attached).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>Certificate not submitted</li> </ul> <p>Amount limit – 20 lakh (National level)</p>	<p>The organization representative informed the GB that total budget of component A of the event (2 days workshop and exhibition) is Rs. 25,31,000/-. However, only Rs. 20,00,000/- has been sought from the National Fund.</p> <p>The GB approved financial grant of Rs. 20 lakh or actual expenditure, whichever is less. The grant will however be subject to submission of a certificate by the organization that financial assistance has not been obtained from any other source for the same purpose except the gap funding (if required).</p>
5	<p>Shri Rimo Saha – financial assistance of Rs.5,33,400/- sought by the applicant, who is a paraswimmer, to cross the English channel in the relay format on 17th July to 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Persons with benchmark disability.</li> <li>Amongst first three ranks in sports at State level atleast once during last 3 years.</li> <li>Purpose – Participate in sports event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yes (80%)</li> <li>English Channel (2018), Catalina Channel (2019), North Channel (2022)</li> <li>Yes</li> </ul>	<p>GB approved the following as per guidelines and on the lines of grant given to other candidates:</p> <p>Air fare – Economy Daily Allowance - Rs. 4000 per day Visa fee</p> <p>The grant will however be subject to submission of a certificate that financial assistance has</p>



Sl No.	Proposal details	Comments of the Department		Recommendation
		Eligibility criteria prescribed in guidelines	Whether criteria fulfilled	
		<p>at the International events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not obtained financial assistance for the same purpose from any other source during same financial year (certificate to be attached).</li> <li>• Assistance from the Fund for the similar activity to be granted only once in a financial year to a PwD.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Certificate not submitted</li> <li>• Not granted from NF during 2023-24 so far.</li> </ul> <p>Amount limit – Economy class to and fro ticket and 4000 per day.</p> <p>Note: Leader of the team is Sh Satender Singh who was given funding from NF in 2022-23 for similar event.</p>	not been obtained from any other source for the same purpose.
6	Divya Bands of India, NIEPVD (Dehradun) – proposal for organizing a PAN India competition & finale concert among 36 bands of divyangjan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration not less than 3 years</li> <li>• Experience of not less than 2 years</li> <li>• Purpose – Exhibition/ workshop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Yes</li> <li>• Yes</li> </ul>	As the organizing Institute is a National Institute under the Department, the GB approved grant of Rs. 24,18,000/ or actual expenditure incurred, whichever is less.

Sl No.	Proposal details	Comments of the Department		Recommendation
		Eligibility criteria prescribed in guidelines	Whether criteria fulfilled	
	from 28 States & 8 UTs - Fund sought is Rs. 24,18,000/-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not obtained financial assistance for the same purpose (certificate to be attached).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Certificate not submitted</li> </ul> Amount limit – 20 lakh (national level)	It was also approved that only persons with visual impairment (40% or above disability) will participate in the proposed event.

### 3.3 Agenda No. 3 – Other Recommendations

- Press Note to be issued to disseminate information about new guidelines of National Fund.
- Guidelines will be shared with the National Institutes with a request for further dissemination of information about the provisions under the National Fund.

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## Annexure I

### List of Participants

#### A Members of Governing Body

- |   |  |                                |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, DEPwD                   | Chairperson                    |
| 2 | Shri Rajesh Yadav, Joint Secretary, DEPwD                | Convener & CEO                 |
| 3 | Shri Nithali Ram, DS (IFD), DEPwD                        | Member                         |
| 4 | Shri K.R. Vaidheesvaran, JS & CEO National Trust         | Member                         |
| 5 | Shri Vijay Kumar Meena, DS, M/o Labour & Employment      | Member                         |
| 6 | Shri Purnendu Kishore Banerjee, JS, D/o Higher Education | <b>Member (Did not attend)</b> |
| 7 | Shri Ajeet Singh Shekhawat, Gujarat                      | Member                         |
| 8 | Dr. Sri Govindraj, Madurai, Tamil Nadu                   | Member                         |

#### B Departmental Officials

- |    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 9  | Shri Nithali Ram, Deputy Secretary (Policy)    |  |
| 10 | Shri Amit Srivastava, Under Secretary (Policy) |  |
| 11 | Shri Ashutosh Srivastava, SO (Policy)          |  |