

The Department implements the Project for Financial Assistance for the Development of Accessible Learning Materials (*DALM Project; erstwhile Braille Press Project*). Under this Project, financial support as a Recurring Grant-in-Aid is provided to the ‘approved and functional implementing agencies’ for providing free-of-cost Accessible Learning Materials - Braille, Digital Accessible Books/E-Pub/pdf along with narrative feature, OCR – Structure E-Pub without proofreading, Human Narrated Recording, Large Print and Large Print with Braille to school-going children with visual impairment and students with visual impairment pursuing higher education programs. The Project also envisages providing financial support as Non-Recurring Grant-in-Aid for setting up of:

- a) New Braille Presses/Capacity Augmentation/Modernization of existing Braille Presses
- b) Capacity Augmentation/Modernization of Existing Talking Book Studios
- c) New Digital Book Production Centre/Capacity Augmentation/Modernization of existing Digital Book Production Centre
- d) New Large Print production Centre/Capacity Augmentation/Modernization of existing Large Print production Centre.

2. The National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (Divyangjan), Dehradun is the Nodal Agency for the implementation of the Scheme. The institute would be inter-alia responsible for scrutinizing the proposal, obtaining reports from Implementing Agencies, evaluating their performance, and preparing agenda for consideration of proposals by the Competent Authority/Body. It will also examine the applications/proposals received and recommend the same for consideration by the Screening Committee of the Project.

3. The Screening Committee will act as a guiding and executive committee to execute actions as per the objectives of the Project and the Committee meeting is to be organized at least twice a year. The committee will have the following composition:

1	Joint Secretary/Deputy Director General (DDG) dealing with this project at DEPwD	Chairman
2	Deputy Secretary/Director, DEPwD handling this Project	Member Secretary
3	Director, NIEPVD	Member
4	Deputy Secretary/Director (Finance), DEPwD	Member
5	One expert to be nominated by the DEPwD	Member
6	One expert to be invited by the Nodal Agency	Member

4. The Screening Committee will be responsible for the followings:

- ✓ To consider the proposals for implementing agencies under the project.
- ✓ To consider the proposal of Non-Recurring Grant-in-Aid for implementing agencies.
- ✓ To consider the proposals for Recurring Grant-in-Aid for implementing agencies.
- ✓ To review the actions of the nodal agency and direct for necessary action to be taken under the project.
- ✓ To review and finalize the rates against the development of accessible learning material under reimbursement of recurring grant in aid.
- ✓ To approve the proposal of the nodal agency regarding the conduction of training programs, workshops, meetings, etc. under the project.

- ✓ To develop a monitoring mechanism for the project.
- ✓ To approve and reimburse the administrative expenses by the Nodal Agency.
- ✓ To take any related decision concerning the project to achieve the objectives.
- ✓ To take decision for continuation of Grant to the Implementing Agencies.
