

**No.K-11017/1/2022-SCD-V**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**  
**Department of Social Justice & Empowerment**  
**(SCD-V Section)**

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi  
Date: 20th November, 2023

To,  
Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary/  
Additional Secretary/Incharges/  
Social Welfare Department/SC/OBC Welfare Department  
All States/UTs as per list

**Subject: Additional instructions w.r.t 'instructions regarding implementation of Post Matric Scholarship Scheme (SC) Students and Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC Students & Others for AY:2023-24, dated 5<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023'-reg.**

Respected Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter no. K-11017/1/2022-SCD-V dated 05<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (copy enclosed) vide which instructions were issued to all States/UTs for the implementation of Post Matric Scholarship Scheme (SC) Students and Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC Students & Others for AY:2023-24.

2. In this context, it is informed that during the recently held regional cluster meetings/trainings/handholding programmes conducted by this department in different States/UTs to review the status of the implementation of Scheme for 2023-24, it has come to the notice that State Governments/UTs seek further clarification on the process flows regarding the various aspects and additional instructions issued vide letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 under both the scholarship schemes i.e., Post Matric Scholarship Scheme (SC) Students and Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC Students & Others. Also the clarification becomes important in the wake of bio-authorisations of the SNO/DNOs/HoIs/INOs to be done by the States/UTs.

3. Accordingly, the following are required to be incorporated by all States/UTs on their respective State portals as listed below:

**A. Aadhaar based Biometric eKYC for all INOs/HoI/DNOs/SNOs**

Referring to the point 1(f) of Revised Instructions letter issued to all States/UTs vide letter no. K-11017/1/2022-SCD-V dated 05<sup>th</sup> October 2023, starting from 2023-24, by which States/UTs were recommended to complete the Aadhaar based Bio-matric eKYC for all INOs, HoIs, DNOs & SNOs preferably from 2023-24. This step aims to bolster the authenticity and accuracy of identity verification processes.

However, if States/UTs are facing any difficulty while completing the Aadhaar based Bio-metric eKYC for all INOs, HoIs, DNO and SNOs, they may follow the existing procedure for verification of applications for the year 2023-24 to enable

timely disbursement of scholarship to the eligible beneficiaries. The said instruction will be optional while pushing the data to NSP for Central share disbursement for the year 2023-24.

Further, from 2024-25 onwards, it will be mandatory for all the States/UTs to do Biometric based Aadhaar eKYC for INOs, HoIs, DNO and SNOs.

**B. Aadhaar based eKYC for all Beneficiaries**

States/UTs during the cluster meetings shared and informed that applications have been received on their State portals and starting the exercise at this crucial point may further delay the disbursement process. Referring to the point 2 (a) of Revised Instructions letter issued to all States/UTs vide letter no. K-11017/1/2022-SCD-V dated 05<sup>th</sup> October 2023, States/UTs were suggested to preferably start One Time Password (OTP) based Aadhaar eKYC of the students/applicants from 2023-24.

However, to smoothly implement the scheme for 2023-24, and to mitigate any hardship for applicants, States/UTs can continue with the existing process for the current year 2023-24. However, if the States/UTs wish to do the One Time Password (OTP) based Aadhaar eKYC of the students/applicants from 2023-24, they may do this as per their policy decision. The said instruction will be optional while pushing the data to NSP for Central share disbursement for the year 2023-24.

Further, from 2024-25 onwards it will be mandatory for all the States/UTs to implement Biometric-based eKYC for all beneficiaries. This decision has been made to ensure a higher level of authentication and to mitigate potential risks associated with identity verification.

4. For all the State Governments/UTs on-boarded on NSP, no relaxation of 3(A) and 3(B) above for AY 2023-24 shall be given. They are strictly required to comply with the additional instructions issued dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 and are required to undertake Aadhaar based Bio-metric eKYC for all INOs/HoI/DNOs/SNOs and OTP based Aadhaar eKYC for all the students/applicants as mentioned in the Instruction letter dated 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2023.

Yours faithfully,

  
(ANIL KUMAR V. PATIL),

Director

Copy to:

1. Chief Secretary, All States/UTs as per list; for information pls.
2. Shri Saurabh K Tiwari, Joint Secretary, DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
3. Shri Shashi Bhushan, HoG, NSP NIC, New Delhi.
4. Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/Secretary/ Additional Secretary/Incharges of the Department of School Education, All States/UTs as per list; for necessary cooperation and directions to all concerned for taking action on related aspects at the earliest.
5. Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/Secretary/ Additional Secretary/Incharges of the Department of Higher Education, All States/UTs as per list; for necessary cooperation and directions to all concerned for taking action on related aspects at the earliest.
6. Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/Secretary/ Additional Secretary/Incharges of the Department of Medical Education, All States/UTs as per list; for necessary cooperation and directions to all concerned for taking action on related aspects at the earliest.
7. Commissioner/Director, Department of School Education, All States/UTs as per list; for necessary follow up and action.
8. Commissioner/Director, Department of Higher Education, All States/UTs as per list; for necessary follow up and action.
9. Commissioner/Director, Department of Medical Education, All States/UTs as per list; for necessary follow up and action.
10. HoG, National Scholarship Portal (NSP), NIC HQ.