MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (Autonomous)

Kokapet, Gandipet, Hyderabad – 500 075

CIRCULAR

MGIT/Scholarships/2026-27/10 Date: 16.11.2026

Sub: Payment of Tuition Fee under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Scheme – Instructions to Students – Regarding.

Ref: G.O. Ms. No. 9, dated 06.06.2026, issued by the Scheduled Castes Development (Edn.A1) Department, Government of Telangana.

It is hereby informed to all the students belonging to the eligible scholarship categories that, as per **G.O. Ms. No. 9**, dated **06.06.2026**, issued by the Government of Telangana, the scholarship amount, including the tuition fee reimbursement, will be directly credited to the respective bank accounts of the students under the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.

As stipulated under Clause 10 (Payment Mechanism and Timelines) of the Annexure to the above Government Order, the tuition fee amount payable to the Institution will also be credited directly to the bank accounts of the eligible students.

In this regard, all the students who are eligible for scholarships (fee reimbursement) are hereby instructed to strictly comply with the following conditions:

1. **Payment of Tuition Fee:** All the scholarship students shall pay the entire annual tuition fee payable to the Institute immediately within seven (**7**) days from the date of credit of the tuition fee reimbursement amount into their respective bank accounts by the Government.
2. **Responsibility of Students:** It is the sole responsibility of the student to ensure that the tuition fee reimbursement amount credited to their bank account is remitted to the Institute within the stipulated period. The amount received towards tuition fee reimbursement shall not be diverted or utilized for any other purpose.

3. **Non-Payment of Tuition Fee:** If a student fails to remit the tuition fee within seven (**7**) days from the date of receipt of the fee reimbursement from the Government into their account, the student shall not be permitted to attend regular classes until the outstanding tuition fee is paid in full.

All the scholarship students and their parents/guardians are hereby advised to take serious note of the above instructions. The Institute will take appropriate action in accordance with the Government Orders and applicable rules of the Institute in case of non-compliance.

The Heads of Departments, Director-Academic & Examination Section and Director-Student Affairs are directed to bring these instructions to the notice of all concerned scholarship students and ensure strict compliance.

16/1/2026

PRINCIPAL

Copy to:

1. All the students who are eligible for scholarships through email
2. All Heads of Departments – for information and necessary action
3. Director, Academic & Examination Cell
4. Director, Student Affairs
5. Accounts Section
6. Notice Boards / Institute Website.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

SC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT – Post-Matric Scholarships including Reimbursement of Tuition Fee (RTF) and Maintenance Fee (MTF)– Implementation of Government of India guidelines on the lines of G.O.Ms.No.6, SC Development (Edn.A1) Department, dated 06.09.2024 – Extension of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode to ST, BC, EBC, Minority and Differently-Abled (Disabled) students from the Academic Year 2026-27 onwards– Orders – Issued.

SCHEDULED CASTES DEVELOPMENT (EDN.A1) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.9 **Dated:06.06.2026.**

Read the following:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.18, Higher Education (EC.2) Department, dated 27.06.2008.
2. G.O.Ms.No.50, Social Welfare (Edn.2) Department, dated 26.08.2008.
3. G.O.Ms.No.102, Social Welfare (Edn.2) Department, dated 29.07.2009.
4. G.O.Ms.No.66, Social Welfare (Edn.2) Department, dated 08.09.2010.
5. G.O.Ms.No.30, BC Welfare (OP) Department, dated 31.08.2012.
6. G.O.Ms.No.6, SC Development (Edn.A1) Department, dated 6.09.2024.
7. Lr.No.F.No.14011/04/2019-SCD-V, dated 30.03.2021 of GoI, MoSJ&E.
8. Common Order of the Hon'ble High Court for the State of Telangana, dated 02.04.2026 in W.P.Nos.4835, 4855, 4871, 4900, 4905, 4910, 4912, 4915, 4935, 5021, 5023, 5580 of 2026, 12945 of 2025 and 35204 of 2024.
9. From the Commissioner, SCDD, Telangana, Hyderabad, Lr.Rc.No.D2/ 3387097/2026, Dt.21.05.2026.

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ORDER:

In the Government Orders 1st to 5th read above, the Government had introduced and from time to time amplified the Scheme of Reimbursement of Tuition Fee (RTF) and Maintenance Fee for, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Economically Backward Classes, Minorities and Differently-Abled students pursuing recognised professional and post-matric courses in colleges affiliated to State Universities and other competent authorities. Under the said scheme, the Tuition Fee and Special Fee in respect of eligible students were reimbursed by the concerned Welfare Department directly to the institutions, and the institutions were prohibited from collecting the said fees from the eligible students.

2. In the reference 6th read above, the Government, in partial modification of the earlier orders insofar as Scheduled Caste students are concerned, adopted the Government of India guidelines (Mar' 2021) issued vide reference 7th read above and migrated the sanction of Post-Matric Scholarships including RTF and MTF for SC students to the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode through the Aadhaar Payment Bridge System (APBS) to the students only, with effect from the Academic Year 2024-25 onwards.

(P.T.O.)

3. In the reference 8th read above, the Hon'ble High Court for the State of Telangana, by common order dated 02.04.2026, while taking note of the admitted dues payable to the petitioner-institutions and the consequent financial hardship, has, by way of an interim measure and subject to the outcome of the writ petitions, permitted the petitioner-institutions to collect tuition fees directly from eligible SC, ST, EBC, BC, MW and other categories of students covered under the said Government Orders, without reference to the said Government Orders, from the Academic Year 2026-27 onwards. The Hon'ble Court has further directed that, in the event of dismissal of the writ petitions, the institutions shall refund such tuition fees collected from students to the respective students.

4. In the reference 9th read above, as Nodal Department for Post Matric Scholarships the Commissioner, Scheduled Castes Development Department, Telangana, Hyderabad, has submitted a detailed proposal for implementation of the Government of India guidelines for sanction of Post-Matric Scholarships, including Reimbursement of Tuition Fee '(RTF) and 'Maintenance Fee (MTF)', to ST, BC, EBC, Minority and Differently-Abled students on the lines of the framework already implemented for SC students vide G.O.Ms.No.6 dated 06.09.2024, with effect from the Academic Year 2026-27 onwards.

5. After careful examination of the matter, having regard to the policy of the Government to migrate welfare scholarship delivery to a beneficiary-centric, technology-enabled and fully auditable "Direct Benefit Transfer" architecture, the precedent already set by G.O.Ms.No.6 dated 06.09.2024 in respect of SC students, the proposal of the Commissioner, SCDD, and the directions of the Hon'ble High Court of Telangana dated 02.04.2026, the Government, in partial modification of G.Os 1st to 6th read above hereby issue the following Consolidated Implementation Guidelines for sanction of the Reimbursement of Tuition Fee (RTF) and Maintenance Fee (MTF) to SC, ST, BC, EBC, Minority and Differently-Abled students from the Academic Year 2026-27 onwards as set out in the Annexure to this Order.

6. Save as expressly modified by the Consolidated Implementation Guidelines annexed to this Order, all other provisions of the Government Orders 1stto 6th read above, including the eligibility framework, the fee approval mechanism by the Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee (TAFRC), and the obligations of the institutions in respect of admissions, shall continue to remain in force.

7. The Commissioner, Scheduled Castes Development Department, Telangana, Hyderabad, being the Nodal Officer of Post-Matric Scholarships, in coordination with the Commissioner, Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department, the Commissioner, Backward Classes Welfare Department, the Director, Minorities Welfare Department, the Director, Welfare of Differently-Abled, Senior Citizens and Transgenders, and the Director General, Centre for Good Governance, Government of Telangana, are directed to take necessary action and make necessary changes in the ePass portal, IFMIS and PFMS, and integrate the same with MeeSeva, NPCI, AISHE, UDISE and the National Scholarship Portal (NSP), for sanction of Post-Matric Scholarships and Reimbursement of Tuition Fee to the eligible students from the Academic Year 2026-27 onwards, in coordination with the Higher Education Department, Technical Education Department, Collegiate Education Department, Board of Intermediate Education and the Universities concerned.

(Condt..3/-)

8. The respective Welfare Departments and District Collectors shall issue wide publicity to the Consolidated Implementation Guidelines annexed to this Order, and shall ensure that all eligible students within their jurisdiction are made aware of the scheme and assisted in registration through facilitation centres and institutional nodal officers.

9. This Order issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department vide their U.O.No.1341/88/SCSDF/2026, dated:27.05.2026.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

SABYASACHI GHOSH
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(Welfare)

To
The Commissioner, Scheduled Castes Development Department, Telangana, Hyderabad.
The Commissioner, Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department, Telangana, Hyderabad.
The Commissioner, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Telangana, Hyderabad.
The Director, Minorities Welfare Department, Telangana, Hyderabad.
The Director, Welfare of Differently-Abled, Senior Citizens and Transgenders, Telangana, Hyderabad.
The Director General, Centre for Good Governance, ePass, Telangana, Hyderabad.
All the District Collectors in the State
(through the respective Commissioners / Directors).
(With a request to issue wide publicity regarding the migration to DBT mode for ST, BC, EBC, Minority and Differently-Abled students from A.Y. 2026-27.)

Copy to:-
The Secretary, MoSJ&E, GoI, New Delhi.
The Director, MoSJ&E, GoI, New Delhi.
The Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
The Secretary, Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.
The Spl.Chief Secretary to Government, Tribal Welfare Department, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.
The Principal Secretary to Government, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.
The Secretary to Government, Minority Welfare Department, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.
The Secretary to Government, Scheduled Castes Development Department, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.
The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.
The Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.
All the Deputy Directors / District Welfare Officers (ST / BC / Minority / Disabled Welfare) in the State for taking necessary action
(through the respective Commissioners / Directors).
The Department of Employment & Training, Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad.

(Condt..4/-)

The Commissioner of Technical Education, Vidya Bhavan, Nampally, Hyderabad.
The Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Hyderabad.
The Telangana State Council of Higher Education, Hyderabad.
The Board of Intermediate Education, Hyderabad.
The State Board of Technical Education & Training, Hyderabad.
The Registrars of all Universities, Telangana State.
The Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee (TAFRC), Hyderabad.
Sf /Sc.

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE TO G.O.Ms.No.9, SC DEVELOPMENT (Edn.A1) DEPARTMENT, DATED:06.06.2026

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
CONSOLIDATED IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES

Post-Matric Scholarships (Tuition Fee and Maintenance fee) through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Mode for SC, ST, BC, EBC, Minority and PwD Students

(With effect from the Academic Year 2026-27)

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1. Preamble

1.1 The Government of India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, has issued comprehensive guidelines in March 2021 for implementation of the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste students (PMS-SC), mandating delivery of the entire scholarship amount, including Tuition Fee and academic allowance, to the Aadhaar-seeded bank account of the eligible student through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) under the Aadhaar Payment Bridge System (APBS). The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has issued parallel guidelines applicable from 01.04.2022 for Scheduled Tribe students.

1.2 The Government of Telangana has, vide G.O.Ms.No.6, Scheduled Castes Development (Edn.A1) Department, dated 06.09.2024, adopted the said framework for SC students with effect from the Academic Year 2024-25.

1.3 In order to ensure uniform, efficient and beneficiary-centric implementation of the scheme across all eligible categories, the following consolidated guidelines are hereby issued, drawing upon the Government of India guidelines as the common operational framework, with category-specific provisions for Tuition Fee, Maintenance Fee / academic allowance as set out herein.

2. Objective

2.1 To provide financial assistance to eligible students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Backward Classes, Economically Backward Classes, Minorities and Differently-Abled categories to pursue post-matriculation and post-secondary education in recognized institutions in the State of Telangana.

2.2 To deliver the said assistance through a beneficiary-centric, technology-enabled and fully auditable Direct Benefit Transfer architecture that ensures timely payment, eliminates leakage and removes the need for institutions to pre-finance scholarship dues.

3. Scope and Applicability

3.1 These guidelines shall apply to all eligible SC, ST, BC, EBC, Minority and PwDstudents admitted in to all universities and its affiliated colleges of Telangana State and institutions affiliated and approved by AICTE, NMC, NCVT, AISHE, NMC, PCI, INC, BCI on saturation mode.

3.2 Students registered prior to the Academic Year 2026-27 shall continue to be governed by the guidelines applicable to the relevant academic year of registration and shall be settled accordingly.

4. Definitions

For the purposes of these guidelines —

(a) **"APBS"**means the Aadhaar Payment Bridge System

(b) **"DBT"**means Direct Benefit Transfer of the scholarship amount to the Aadhaar-seeded bank account of the eligible student.

(c) **"District Welfare Officer"**means the District Officer of the Welfare Department concerned, namely:

- District SC Development Officer for SC students;
- District Tribal Welfare Officer for ST students;
- District BC Development Officer for BC and EBC students;
- District Minority Welfare Officer for Minority students;
- District Welfare Officer of W,CD,SC&T.GP students.

(d) **"epass"**means electronic payment and application of scholarship system the online scholarship portal maintained by the Centre for Good Governance, Government of Telangana, for processing of Post-Matric Scholarship and Tuition Fee applications.

(e) **"MTF or Maintenance Fee"**means the academic allowance or stipend payable in addition to RTF.

(f) **"Nodal Officer"**means the officer nominated by each educational institution to facilitate registration, verification and forwarding of applications under these guidelines.

(g) **"RTF or Tuition Fee"**means the compulsory non-refundable fee component; including Tuition Fee, as fixed by the Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee (TAFRC) or the competent authority/ University.

(h) **"TAFRC"**means the Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee constituted by the Government of Telangana for fee fixation in respect of professional and other notified courses.

5. Eligibility of Educational Institutions

5.1 The institutions located within the State of Telangana, possessing a valid AISHE / UDISE / NCVT and other code and the conditions met in Para 5.2, shall be eligible under these guidelines.

5.2 An eligible institution shall —

(a) be affiliated to a recognized University or Board, or be an Institution of National Importance, Private Professional Institution affiliated to a recognized Central or State University, or a recognized school or college for Classes XI and XII, or a diploma-granting institution recognized by the State, or a Vocational Training Institute affiliated to NCVT, or an institution affiliated to or approved by NMC, AICTE, PCI, INC, BCI or any other appropriate regulatory body;

(b) The details, including registration, affiliation, accreditation, courses offered and number of seats approved for each course, pulled into the ePass portal through API integration with the AISHE / UDISE server;

(c) In case of SC, ST students the scholarship shall be sanctioned to all colleges affiliated to Centre/State who have been admitted on merit basis under convenor quota including out of state colleges except deemed and private universities.

(d) Nominate a Institute Nodal Officer for purpose of implementing these guidelines and notify the same to the concerned District Welfare Officer through the ePass portal;

(e) Admit eligible students on the basis of merit through a transparent process and through convenor quota seats, on the understanding that the Tuition Fee and other eligible fees shall be paid by the student to the institution out of the scholarship amount credited to the student's Aadhaar-seeded bank account, in accordance with the timelines specified in Para 10;

(f) Submit half-yearly self-audited reports to the State Government in such format as may be separately prescribed;

(g) Implement an Aadhaar based attendance system in a phased manner in coordination with Centre for Good Governance and Education Department.

5.3 The scholarship shall be restricted to those courses, and within those courses to such number of seats, as have been recognized or authorized by the concerned regulatory authority/University.

5.4 Seats filled through management quota, NRI quota, spot admissions or any other process not conforming to the merit criteria notified by the State Government shall not be eligible for scholarships under these guidelines.

6. Eligibility of Students

6.1 To be eligible for sanction of scholarship under these guidelines, a student shall —

(a) be domiciled in the State of Telangana as per the rules prescribed by the State Government;

(b) belong to one of the categories specified in these guidelines, namely Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, Backward Class, Economically Backward Class, Minority or Persons with Disabilities, as certified by the competent authority through MeeSeva;

(c) have passed the Matriculation or Higher Secondary or any higher examination of a recognized University or Board of Secondary Education;

(d) for all SC, ST, BC, EBC, Minority and PwDstudents family total income (Father/Guardian+Mother+applicant)from all sources should not exceed Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Fifty Thousand only) per annum during the immediately preceding financial year, as certified by the competent authority through MeeSeva;

(e) hold an active bank account in his or her own name, seeded with Aadhaar and linked to an active mobile number; and

(f) not be a beneficiary of any other scholarship or stipend; provided that a student in receipt of any other scholarship or stipend may exercise his or her option for whichever is more beneficial, and shall inform the awarding authority through the Head of the Institution about the option made.

6.2 The income certificate shall be obtained once only at the time of first admission to a course continuing for more than one year, and shall remain valid for the entire duration of the course.

6.3 Candidates who, after passing one stage of education, are studying in the same stage of education in a different subject (such as B.Com. after B.A., or M.A. in a second subject after M.A. in another subject) shall not be eligible.

6.4 All children of any parent or guardian shall be entitled to receive benefits under these guidelines, subject to fulfilment of other conditions.

6.5 The guidelines for sanction of scholarship in respect of correspondence courses will be issued separately by the State Government.

7. Payment of Tuition Fee (RTF)

7.1 The Tuition Fee shall consist of the compulsory non-refundable fees, including Tuition Fee, as fixed by the Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee or the competent authority/University.

7.2 Refundable deposits, including caution money and security deposit, shall not be reimbursable.

7.3 In respect of courses covered by TAFRC fee fixation, the Tuition Fee amount shall be as approved by TAFRC. In respect of others courses, the Tuition Fee shall be as determined by the competent authority/University.

8. Maintenance Fee / Academic Allowance (MTF)

State Government is following below MTF rates for SC,ST,BC,Minority&PwD students

Course Group	State Govt. Rates (per month)	
	College Attached Hostel	Day scholar
I-Professional Course	1500	650
II-(P.G.Course)	1500	650
III- (Degree Academic course)	1000	500
IV-(10+2 Intermediate level course)	750	500

*Ten percentage additional allowance shall be paid to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)

8.3 In case of SC,ST students, the additional rates of maintenance (MTF) over and above the rates of Government of India shall be borne by the State Government.

8.4 The MTF for SC, ST, BC, Minority welfare and PwDs students shall be credited along with Tuition Fee to the Aadhaar-seeded bank account of the student through APBS.

9. Application, Verification and Sanction

9.1 **Registration:** Every eligible student shall, on the day of admission or as soon as possible thereafter, register on the ePass portal for sanction of scholarship by furnishing —

(a) Aadhaar number, which shall be demo-authenticated or e-KYC verified against the details in the SSC or equivalent record; any discrepancy shall be rectified by the student in the Aadhaar record or concerned SSC boards like CBSCE, ICSE or State Boards;

(b) Biometric authentication of students for registration of the Post-Matric Scholarship.

(c) details of the Aadhaar-seeded bank account in the name of the student, including account number and IFSC code;

(d) details of the institution and course of study; and

(e) such other particulars as the ePass portal may require.

9.2 **NoFreeship Card requirement:** For administrative simplicity and to align with the existing flow under G.O.Ms.No.6, the Freeship Card mechanism contemplated in the Government of India guidelines shall not be operationalized in the State of Telangana. The student shall apply directly for scholarship on the ePass portal following admission to the institution.

9.3 **Auto-verification of certificates:** The caste, income and domicile certificates shall be linked with MeeSeva with Aadhaar as the unique identifier and verified automatically. The collection of physical hard copies from colleges is dispensed with. Universities, Institutions and Colleges are permitted to upload the documents digitally through the ePass website, duly confirming the eligibility of the student, and forward the same to the District Welfare Officer concerned for sanction with Digital Key.

9.4 **Bank account verification:** The bank account, IFSC code, account holder name and validity shall be verified through NPCI or any other agency notified by the Government, before sanction by the District Welfare Officer. Any defect noticed shall be intimated to the student forthwith for rectification.

9.5 **Institution-level verification:** The Nodal Officer of the institution shall, on the day of registration or as soon as practicable, verify on the ePass portal that the student has taken admission in the institution in the same course as declared, and is a bonafide student. The Nodal Officer shall confirm eligibility and forward the application to the District Welfare Officer concerned.

9.6 **District-level sanction:** The District Welfare Officer concerned shall verify the digital copies of fresh and renewal applications and sanction the MTF (Academic Allowance) and TUITION FEE using Digital Key. Sanction shall be made only on verification and on compliance with rectifications, if any.

10. Payment Mechanism and Timelines

10.1 The entire scholarship amount, comprising Tuition Fee and MTF, shall be paid to the Aadhaar-seeded bank account of the eligible student through APBS in DBT mode. There shall be no system of calling for bank account details for separate authentication; the Aadhaar number shall be checked against the NPCI mapper.

10.2 Under the DBT model, the Tuition Fee and other eligible fees shall be paid by the student to the institution from the scholarship amount credited to the student's Aadhaar-seeded bank account. The student shall remit such payment to the institution within seven working days from the date of credit.

10.3 Failure to remit the fee to the institutions by the student to make him liable for consequent action as per provisions of law including recovery of the amount under the provision of Revenue Recovery Act.

10.4 Accordingly, admission of an eligible student to an institution shall be made based on the premise of payment of fees as contained in these guidelines with the fees being payable by the student to the institution upon receipt of the scholarship credit as provided in Para 10.2.

10.5 The scholarship portal shall remain open throughout the year for submission of fresh and renewal applications. Disbursal of scholarships shall be made in one instalment per academic year, as per the following schedule, adopted from the Government of India PMS-SC Guidelines:

Dates of receipt of applications	**Date by which State share shall be released**	**Date by which Central share shall be released**
From 1st April to 31st July	15th August	Subsequent to sanction by State Share
From 1st August to 30th November	30th December	Subsequent to sanction by State Share
From 1st December to 31st January	28th February	Subsequent to sanction by State Share
From 1st February to 31st March*	Within 75 days of application	Subsequent to sanction by State Share

**The portal shall remain open for the February-March window only for submission of applications in respect of courses where admission is after November.*

10.6 The State Government shall ensure that its share is disbursed to students within the timelines specified in Para 10.5 so that the Central share can also be released without delay.

10.7 The Centre-State funding ratio applicable to each category shall be in accordance with the respective Central scheme guidelines.[1]

11. Duration and Renewal

11.1 The scholarship, once sanctioned, shall be payable until the completion of the course, subject to —

(a) satisfactory academic performance;

(b) minimum attendance of seventy-five per cent in every academic year, verified through the Aadhaar-based attendance system as and when implemented; and

(c) the student continuing in the same course as a bonafide hosteller or day scholar, as the case may be.

(d) For the Academic year 2026-27 all Renewal and Fresh students must undergo demo authentication so that auto-renewal can be adopted from the following year onwards.

11.2 **Auto-renewal:** For students admitted from the Academic Year 2026-27 onwards, scholarships shall be auto-renewed in subsequent academic years. The institution shall, through the college login on the ePASS portal, confirm eligible renewal applications in respect of students who are promoted to the next class and continuing their course. Eligible renewal and fresh applications shall be forwarded to the District Welfare Officer concerned for sanction through Digital Key. The student shall not be required to make a fresh application for renewal.

12. Role of Educational Institutions

12.1 Every eligible institution shall —

(a) honour the DBT model by admitting eligible students on the basis that the Tuition Fee and hostel fee, where applicable, shall be paid by the student to the institution from the scholarship credited to the student's account under Para 10;

(b) nominate a Nodal Officer to facilitate registration of fresh applications and Aadhaar seeding;

(c) upload required documents digitally through the ePass portal duly confirming eligibility of students;

(d) confirm renewal applications through the college login on the ePass portal in respect of students promoted to the next class;

(e) implement the Aadhaar-based attendance system in coordination with the Centre for Good Governance and share attendance data with the ePass portal;

(f) maintain a Grievance Redressal Officer to address student grievances at the institution level; INO will act as Grievance Redressal Officer also.

(g) make available, on demand, such records as may be required by the District Welfare Officer, State Welfare Department or any auditing authority.

12.2 The Board of Intermediate Education, Department of Employment and Training, Higher Education Department, Technical Education Department, Collegiate Education Department, Universities, Colleges and Institutions shall progressively share admission and academic data with the ePass portal through APIs.

12.3. All the CET Convenors of Telangana State shall share the CET data through API`s to ePASS portal (eg. EAPCET, ECET, ICET, CPGET, DIETCET, EDCET, CEEP, DOST, BIE, SW-2, KLNR, LAWCET, PGCET etc.)

13. Role of the State Government and District Authorities

13.1 The Commissioner, Scheduled Castes Development Department, shall be the **Nodal Officer** for Post-Matric Scholarships in the State and shall coordinate implementation across all categories in conjunction with —

(a) the Commissioner, Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department;

(b) the Commissioner, Backward Classes Welfare Department;

(c) the Director, Minorities Welfare Department;

(d) the Director, Empowerment of Differently-Abled, Senior Citizens and Transgenders; and

(e) the Director General, Centre for Good Governance.

13.2 The respective Welfare Departments shall sanction scholarships in respect of students of their categories through the District Welfare Officers concerned, using Digital Key on the ePass portal.

13.3 The Centre for Good Governance shall maintain the ePass portal with the features specified in Para 14, and shall ensure integration with IFMIS, PFMS, MeeSeva, NPCI, AISHE, UDISE and NSP Portal.

13.4 The State Welfare Departments shall undertake awareness drives through Gram Panchayat notice boards, school committees, parent-teacher associations and other public outreach to maximize coverage, particularly of students from the poorest households as identified in accordance with the parameters of the Government of India guidelines.

13.5 All District Collectors shall ensure that all eligible students within their jurisdiction are made aware of the scheme and assisted in registration through facilitation centres or institutional nodal officers.

14. IT Framework

14.1 The ePass portal shall be the single online platform for end-to-end processing of applications under these guidelines, and shall mandatorily incorporate the following features:

(a) integration with AISHE / UDISE / NCVT for automatic capture of institution;

(b) Aadhaar demo-authentication and biometric authentication at the time of registration;

(c) auto-verification of caste, income and domicile certificates through MeeSeva linkage, with Aadhaar as the unique identifier;

(d) NPCI verification of bank account, IFSC code and account holder name;

(e) Aadhaar-based attendance module, in coordination with the Centre for Good Governance, integrated with institutional attendance systems through APIs as and when operationalized;

(f) auto-renewal functionality based on promotion confirmation by the institution;

(g) performance and progress monitoring module to track academic outcomes of students and performance of institutions, with data fetched through APIs from institutions and universities, to be progressively designed and incorporated in a phased manner;

(h) integration with IFMIS and PFMS for sanction and disbursal of scholarship amounts;

(i) online grievance redressal mechanism linking all authorities responsible for implementation;

(j) provision for identification and tagging of students from the poorest households as defined in the Government of India guidelines;

(k) functionality to prevent blacklisted students from re-applying;

(l) de-duplication checks against other scholarship schemes; and

(m) Digital Key-based sanction by District Welfare Officers.

14.2 No upload of physical documents or certificates shall be required from students. All data shall be auto-verified through databases linked to the ePass portal.

14.3 The ePass portal shall share data with the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) and any other portal specified by the Government of India on a real-time basis through API integration.

15. Performance Monitoring and Evaluation

15.1 The performance of the implementation under these guidelines shall be assessed annually on parameters including —

(a) timeliness of payments as per the schedule in Para 10.4;

(b) coverage of students from the poorest households;

(c) academic outcomes of scholarship-holders;

(d) implementation of Aadhaar-based attendance; and

(e) digitization of certificates required for determining eligibility.

15.2 Social audits shall be conducted at least once a year by the Social Audit Units of the State Government in coordination with the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, with the cost being met from the administrative cost of the scheme.

15.3 An annual third-party evaluation shall be commissioned by the Welfare Departments to assess implementation effectiveness and student outcomes.

15.4 Physical verification shall be undertaken at Mandal, District and State levels covering at least 10% of institutions and students, chosen randomly through an algorithm. All private institutions offering courses at the level of graduation or above shall be mandatorily inspected annually.

16. Grievance Redressal

16.1 The ePass portal shall incorporate an online grievance redressal mechanism linking all authorities responsible for implementation.

16.2 Students shall be able to lodge grievances through the portal or through a mobile application.

16.3 Every institution shall have a Grievance Redressal Officer responsible for entertaining grievances and following up with the appropriate authority for resolution.

16.4 Grievances not resolved at the institution level within the prescribed time frame shall be automatically escalated to the District and thereafter to the State level for resolution.

17. Other Conditions

17.1 If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, the scholarship shall be cancelled forthwith and the amount paid shall be recovered at the discretion of the concerned Welfare Department. The student shall be blacklisted and debarred from receiving any scholarship under any scheme of the Government.

17.2 A student is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the concerned Welfare Department if, during the course of the year, the studies for which the scholarship was awarded are discontinued.

17.3 The provisions of these guidelines may be modified at any time by the Government of Telangana, in conformity with the Government of India guidelines and the directions of Government of Telangana.

18. Transitional Provisions

18.1 These guidelines shall apply to students admitted from the Academic Year 2026-27 onwards. Students registered prior to AY 2026-27 shall continue to be governed by the guidelines applicable to the year of their registration.

SABYASACHI GHOSH
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(Welfare)