

No.4-2(80)/2014-DD-I
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

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Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex,
Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003

Dated, the 11th February, 2015

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 – Issuance of Guidelines reg.

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The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, is the main legislation that deals with the rights and empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. Implementation of the provisions of the PwD Act, 1995, is being undertaken with a multi-sectoral collaborative approach and the related Ministries/Departments of the Central/State Governments and other appropriate authorities take steps towards effective implementation of various provisions of the Act.

2. The Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, was included in the Ninth Five Year Plan of this Ministry. The Ministry has been implementing the Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 (SIPDA) for providing financial assistance for undertaking various activities outlined in the PwD Act.

3. Financial assistance is being given under this scheme for setting up District Disability Rehabilitation Centers (DDRCs), and Composite Rehabilitation Centers (CRCs). Financial assistance is also being provided under the Scheme to State Govt. and institutions/organizations run by the Central and State Governments for various activities for implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, mainly for providing barrier free environment in Universities, Public Buildings, State Government Secretariat, office of State Commissioner for Disabilities etc. Financial assistance is also provided to make Government websites at the State and District levels accessible to PwDs, to establish early diagnostic and intervention centres at District Headquarters/other places having Government Medical Colleges, with a view to help hearing impaired infants and young children to acquire necessary skills to get prepared for regular schooling, Skill development programmes for PwDs., construction of special recreation centres for PwDs where the appropriate Governments/local authorities have their own land and for any other activity specified in the Act for which financial assistance is not being provided/covered by the existing schemes of the Department which may be considered on a case to case basis by the Department.

4. The Scheme is broad-based as it covers a wide range of activities. However, very few proposals are received under the Scheme due to low visibility and inadequate awareness about the Scheme. The framing of a formal Scheme and guidelines is long overdue. Accordingly, a draft Scheme has been prepared in this Department and further necessary action is under process for its approval by following the prescribed procedure. For continuing the activities being undertaken in this Scheme, the following guidelines are issued.

5. Definitions

Definitions of various types of disabilities will be same as given in the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (PwD Act) and National Trust Act, 1999.

6. Scope

The following type of activities shall be covered under the Scheme:-

- i) To provide barrier free environment for the persons with disabilities which include access to built environment in schools, colleges, academic and training institutions, offices and public buildings, recreational areas, health centres/hospitals etc. This would include provision for ramps, rails, lifts, adaptation of toilets for wheelchair users, brail signages and auditory signals, tactile flooring, causing curb cuts and slopes to be made in pavement for the easy access of wheelchair users, engraving on the surface of zebra crossing for the blind or for persons with low vision, engraving on the edges of railway platforms for the blind or for low vision and devising appropriate symbols of disability.
- ii) To make Government websites at the Centre/State and District levels accessible to PwDs as per guidelines issued by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (D/o AR&PG), Government of India, " <http://darpg.nic.in>".
- iii) To promote accessibility of libraries, both physical and digital and other knowledge centres.
- iv) Identification and Survey/issuance of Universal ID of PwDs and to assist State Government to organize camps for issuance of disability certificates.
- v) To support Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs)/ Regional Centres/Out reach Centres and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and also to set up new CRCs and DDRCs as and when required.
- vi) To set up/support resource centres facilitating dissemination of information, awareness campaigns and sensitization programmes on disability issues, counseling and providing support services.

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- vii) Supporting activities relating to pre-school training for children with disabilities, counseling for the parents, training for care givers, teachers training programme and activities relating to early detection camps for children of age 0-5 years and early intervention.
- viii) To establish early diagnostic and intervention centres at District Headquarters/other places having Government Medical Colleges, with a view to help visually impaired, physically impaired, hearing impaired, mentally impaired infants and young children to acquire necessary skills to get prepared for regular schooling.
- ix) To promote research and development activities in the field of disability rehabilitation including to undertake surveys, investigation and research concerning cause of occurrence of disabilities.
- x) Skill Development and vocational training Programme and other programmes for PwDs for ensuring employment of PwDs, including establishing centres for creating economic models appropriate for PwDs.
- xi) Grant to the State Governments/UTs for the Offices of State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities for strengthening infrastructure facilities.
- xii) Construction of special recreation centres for PwDs where the appropriate Governments/local authorities have their own land.
- xiii) Support for sporting events for Persons with Disabilities at National/State level to ensure optimal physical rehabilitation of PwDs.
- xiv) Financial assistance for any other activity specified in the PwD Act for which financial assistance is not being provided/covered by the existing Schemes of the Department.

7. **Implementing Agencies:**

Funds will be released to the implementing organizations/institutions directly. Financial assistance will be provided by way of Grant-in-Aid to the following agencies:

- i) States Governments/Union Territories.
- ii) Autonomous Organizations set up by Central/State Governments including Central/State Universities.
- iii) National Institutes/ CRCs/DDRCs/RCs/Outreach Centres under MSJ&E.
- iv) Statutory Organizations of Central/State Govts/UTs.
- v) Organizations/Institutions set up by Central and State Governments.
- vi) Central/State recognized Sports bodies & Federations.

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8. Recommendation

The Central Government /State Government/UTs Administration/National Institute/Any other Agency authorized by this Ministry should send its recommendation to the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. Autonomous organizations including Central/State Universities and Organizations set up supported by Central/State Government should send their proposals through the Central/State Government concerned. Proposals of sports body/ federation should have approval/no objection of the Ministry/Department of Central/State Government/UTs concerned.

9. Conditions for Assistance

9.1 All the applications received under the Scheme will be examined by a Screening Committee of the Department consisting of Joint Secretary (SIPDA), Joint Secretary & FA, Director (SIPDA) and two experts in the field of disability, to be nominated by the Ministry.

9.2 The Grant-in-aid would normally be released in one installment and in some cases maximum in two installments, depending on the nature of work and the phases of implementation.

9.3 The Implementing Agency is required to follow the General Financial Rules, 2005/ Codal Procedure/CVC Guidelines in the matters of contract/financial transactions.

9.4 The Implementing Agency will be open to inspection by an officer/third party agency authorized by Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment or the State Government/UT Administration/National Institutes etc.

9.5 When the Government of India has reasons to believe that grant-in-aid is not being utilized for the approved purpose, the amount would be recovered from the Implementing Agency with penal interest and no further assistance would be given to the Agency. Ministry will be at liberty to blacklist such organizations and to take legal action.

9.6 The grant shall be given for expenditure of a non-recurring nature and no committed liability shall be created.

9.7 The Implementing Agency will maintain a website and prominently display details of grant-in-aid received, purpose thereof, events organized and list of beneficiaries, wherever applicable.

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9.8 The Implementing Agency shall submit the final Utilization Certificate for the entire grant along with a project completion report within three months after completion of the work/project as stipulated in the proposal. Unutilized money, if any, is to be refunded to the Ministry. In case the work/project is not completed within the stipulated timeframe and further time is sought to complete the same, the organization concerned has to intimate the Ministry and also explain the reason for the delay. If the project is not completed within the timeframe/extended timeframe, the organization concerned has to refund the grant forthwith.

9.9 Autonomous Organizations/Statutory Organizations/Sports Bodies and Federations shall maintain subsidiary accounts of GIA as per GFR provisions. They will also maintain a separate bank account for GIA.

9.10 Each proposal should be forwarded to this Department along with requisite documents as per instructions issued in this regard from time to time.

10. This issues with the approval of the competent authority.


(Jagdish Kumar)
Director (ADIP)
Tele: 011-24369023

Copy to:

1. Principal Secretaries/Secretaries, Department Social Welfare, All States/UTs.
2. Secretary, Ministry of HRD, Department of Higher Education, New Delhi.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship, Youth Affairs & Sports.
4. Directors of all National Institutes under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities.
5. PS to Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E)/PS to Hon'ble MOS (SJ&E)/Sr. PPS to Secretary (DA)/PPS to JS (AKA)/PPS to (JS&FA).