

**CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF ESTABLISHMENT OF ASHRAM
SCHOOLS IN TRIBAL SUB-PLAN AREAS
(w.e.f. 01.04.08)**

OBJECTIVE OF THE SCHEME

The objective of the scheme is to increase education among Scheduled Tribes including PTGs. Ashram Schools provide education with residential facilities in an environment conducive to learning. The scheme is in operation since 1990-91.

SALIENT FEATURES

- a) The scheme is operational in the Tribal Sub-Plan States/UT Administrations.
- b) Construction of Ashram schools for the primary, middle, secondary and senior secondary stages of education as well as upgradation of existing Ashram Schools for Scheduled Tribe boys and girls including PTGs.
- c) 100% funding for establishment of Ashram Schools i.e. school buildings, hostels, kitchen and staff quarters for girls in TSP areas. In addition, 100% funding for establishment of Ashram Schools for boys in only the TSP areas, (if any), of the naxal affected districts identified by Ministry of Home Affairs from time to time (list of naxal affected districts as specified by MHA annexed). All other Ashram schools for boys in TSP States will, however, continue to be funded on 50:50 basis. 100% funding will be provided to UTs.
- d) Financial assistance on 50:50 basis will be given for other non-recurring items of expenditure i.e. purchase of equipment, furniture and furnishing, purchase of few sets of books for a small library for use of inmates of the hostels etc.

Period of Construction

The Ashram Schools shall be completed within a period of 2 years from the date of release of the central assistance. However for the extension of existing Ashram Schools period of construction is 12 months.

Mode of Operation

The State Government/UT Administrations will submit their proposals to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs annually. The proposals of the State Government shall be accompanied by the following documents-

(i) Plan of the Ashram School alongwith locations, duly approved by the Competent Authority in the State Govt./UT Administration. Every State is expected to draw up attractive designs for the buildings that will have good ventilation and comfortable living space. Children must feel proud to be in such schools. The colour schemes must be children friendly. The plan must indicate a layout of the compound, including the kitchen, vegetable garden and plantation (fruits and nutritional trees like moringa, citrus) areas.

States are encouraged to use full saving or renewable energy technologies in the school by availing schemes of the Ministry of New & Renewal Energy.

(ii) A certificate to the effect that matching provision exists in the State Budget for the Scheme, wherever necessary.

(iii) Unencumbered land will be made available free of cost by concerned State Government for construction of an Ashram School.

(iv) State Government will bear the required matching share of cost of the building based on the current Scheduled rates of State PWD or CPWD rates.

(v) The location of new Ashram Schools and the admission policy should be so decided as to give priority to Scheduled Tribe Girls, Children of Primitive Tribal Groups and migrant Scheduled Tribes.

(vi) Utilization Certificate and Physical Progress Report in respect of grants released during previous years.

(vii) A few rooms/blocks of the hostels should be constructed barrier free and facilities like ramps etc. should be included in the design of the construction for the convenience of the ST students with disabilities.

(viii) In case, any State Government is unable to provide the required matching share from its budget, any MP/MLA can provide the State's share from his/her MPLADS/MLALADS fund.

(ix) Preference will be given to State Governments who commit annual maintenance expenditure, as per reasonable norms.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

i) The implementing agencies shall closely supervise the construction of hostels regularly and shall submit quarterly progress reports, both physical and financial, to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi till the completion of the hostels.

ii) For the purpose of effective monitoring, the Ministry may itself conduct or cause field visits to be conducted by appropriate agencies/authorities to inspect the projects.

iii) The expenditure on evaluation/monitoring and administration of the scheme by the Central Government shall be met out of the funds provided for this scheme to the extent of 2% of the total funds allocated.

Annexure

List of naxal affected districts as identified by MHA

<u>Andhra Pradesh</u> 1. Khammam	<u>Madhya Pradesh</u> 25. Balaghat
<u>Bihar</u> 2. Arwal 3. Aurangabad 4. Gaya 5. Jamui 6. Jehanabad 7. Rohtas	<u>Maharashtra</u> 26. Gadchiroli 27. Gondia
<u>Chhattisgarh</u> 8. Bastar 9. Dantewada 10. Kanker 11. Rajnandgaon 12. Surguja 13. Narayanpur 14. Bijapur	<u>Orissa</u> 28. Rayagada 29. Deogah 30. Gajapati 31. Malkangiri 32. Sambalpur
<u>Jharkhand</u> 15. Bokaro 16. Chatra 17. Garhwa 18. Gumla 19. Hazaribagh 20. Latehar 21. Lohardaga 22. East Singhbhum 23. Palamau 24. West Singhbhum	<u>Uttar Pradesh</u> 33. Sonebhadra