

NOTIFICATION

WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 14/02/2011 delivered in Criminal Appeal No. 135 of 2010, between Budhadev Karmaskar versus State of West Bengal directed the State Governments to prepare scheme for giving technical/vocational training to sex workers and sexually abused women to enable them to earn for their livelihood by such vocational training and skill.

Now, therefore, the Government of Goa hereby frames the following schemes:-

1. Short title and commencement:

1) This Scheme may be called the "Goa (Technical/Vocational training to sex workers and sexually abused women) Scheme, 2013 (PRABHAT)".

2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Objectives of the Scheme :-

The objective of this Scheme is to provide technical/vocational training to sex workers and sexually abused women to enable them to earn for their livelihood by such technical/vocational training and skill.

3. Implementing Department:-

The Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Goa shall implement this Scheme. The Department will take the assistance of members of reputed NGOs/Trust/Society/professionals/expert bodies, who are involved in rehabilitation of sex workers.

4. Eligibility Criteria:-

A victim of commercial sexual exploitation and resident of Goa is eligible to apply for the benefits under this Scheme.

5. Manner of making application :-

- (1) Application for availing the benefits under this Scheme shall be made to the Probation Officer.
- (2) The Probation Officer shall place the application before the Monitoring Committee who shall recommend on releasing immediate relief, if required, appointment of Mentor, technical/vocational training, admission in educational institution, etc. of sex workers.

6. Immediate relief: - A victim of commercial sexual exploitation (excluding victims housed in Protective Home) will be provided a stipend of Rs. 2500/- per month, after rescue or exit from commercial sexual exploitation. The stipend will be paid for a period of three months or till she joins a livelihood programme, whichever is earlier.

7. Technical/Vocational Training: - The Mentor/Probation Officer shall assess about literacy, skills, interest, etc. of sex workers and help them to join technical/vocational training programme. Emphasis shall be given to the training programmes which has opportunities for jobs or setting up own enterprise, such as, repair of home appliance, mobile repair, beauty treatment, tailoring, bakery, catering, etc.

The said training will be provided by the Government or Non-Government institutes. The Government will bear the fees, travel and other miscellaneous expenses through the corpus fund created under clause 17 of the scheme.

8. Education: - A victim of commercial sexual exploitation, if she is interested in pursuing her education then she will be supported for her education till Standard XII. All the expenses related to her education, boarding, travel, fees, books, toiletries, etc. may be paid through the corpus fund created under clause 17 of the scheme subject to the recommendations of the Monitoring Committee.

9. **Monitoring Committee:-**

- 1) There shall be a Monitoring Committee to monitor implementation of this Scheme and to perform the duties assigned under the Scheme.
- 2) The Monitoring Committee shall be headed by Director of Women and Child Development, who shall be its Chairperson and consist of following other members.
 - (a) **Two social workers**, especially members of NGOs or expert bodies involved in rehabilitation of sex workers to be nominated by Government.
 - (b) **An Official** from Police Department preferably, in-charge of the Integrated Anti Human Trafficking Unit as nominated by Government of Goa.
 - (c) **A qualified doctor** having experience in mental health as nominated by Government of Goa.
 - (d) A person having experience in business enterprise (*preferably representative of Goa Chamber of Commerce and Industry*) as nominated by Government of Goa.
 - (e) **Two other members** preferably victims of commercial sexual exploitation as per nomination by Government of Goa and
 - (f) Probation Officer, who shall be Member Secretary of the Monitoring Committee.
- 3) The Committee shall meet as often as deemed fit by Chairperson; but shall meet within a week from the date of receipt of application to give its recommendation thereon.
- 4)
 - (a) During the meeting, the monitoring team shall look into the progress in each case supported under this Scheme.
 - (b) The Committee may interact with the victim to know about her progress.
- 5) The Committee shall transact such other business and follow such rules of procedure in transacting business as deemed fit by the Chairperson.

10. **Shelter:** - A victim of commercial sexual exploitation, if in need of shelter, shall be admitted in a shelter home/Protective Home being managed by non-Government organization or Government organization or organization receiving grants from the State/Central Government.

11. **Psycho-Social Services:** A victim of commercial sexual exploitation will be provided counselling by Probation Officer or by a person appointed as “Mentor” or by a professional counsellor or psychiatrist working in a Government or non Government organization. Expenses incurred for fees, travel, medicine, etc. will be met through the corpus fund created under clause 17 of the scheme.

12. **Health:** - The victim shall be provided health services for all kinds of ailments at the Government hospital. Victims suffering with HIV or Tuberculosis will be connected to ART and DOTS schemes. In cases where the victim is suffering from AIDS and requires institutional care, she shall be admitted to one of the care centres meant for people with HIV/AIDS, for a period of six months.

13. **Children:-** The children of the trafficked victim shall be provided counselling and assistance for admission in the school by the Probation Officer or by a person appointed as “Mentor”. All the expenses related to the education of the children, such as boarding, travel, fees, books, toiletries, etc. upto Std. XII shall be met through the corpus fund created under clause 17 of the scheme.

14. **Reintegration:** - The Probation Officer or “Mentor” shall help the victim in reintegrating with her family and community by providing counselling to the family members and if necessary to the members of the community.

15. **Protection:** - The Probation Officer or “Mentor” shall take the assistance of the family members, community members, religious leader, local police and Integrated Anti-human Trafficking Unit of Goa police in ensuring that the victim is not harassed by the traffickers.

The Probation Officer or Mentor may also make a written complaint to the Chairperson of the Goa State Commission for Women, for victims protection and the Commission shall take necessary action to protect the victim.

16. Livelihood:

- (a) The Probation Officer or “Mentor” shall assist the victim in finding a job, based on the interests and skills of the victim. In case the victim is unable to get a job or is not interested in a job, then the Probation Officer or “Mentor” based on the interest, skill and the viability of a business shall help her in setting up a business enterprise.
- (b) Those victims who have successfully completed the vocational training may be provided all the support by the Probation Officer/Mentor for preparation of project report, availing loan from financial institutions etc. The Department of Women and Child Development may provide such financial assistance to the victim through the corpus fund created under clause 17 of the scheme for setting up business enterprises as may be decided by the Government from time to time.

17. Fund: A corpus will be created in the name of “Sex Workers Rehabilitation Fund”. Government will provide funds for corpus in the form of annual grants for the implementation of the scheme and will accept voluntary contributions from Individuals, Organisations, Trusts, Companies and Institutions etc.

All grants/ voluntary contributions received in the name of said fund shall be deposited in a Bank Account in any nationalised Bank which shall be jointly operated by two members of the Monitoring Committee i.e. Chairperson and Member Secretary.

Contributions by Individuals, Organisations, Trusts, Companies and Institutions etc. to the fund shall qualify for exemption under Section 80 G of the Income Tax Act, as applicable, after obtaining necessary approval from concerned authorities.

18. **Review:-** The Monitoring Committee shall submit quarterly reports to the Secretary, Women and Child Development, Department of the Government of Goa, on the status of cases before it.

19. **Relaxation:-** The Government, if is of the opinion that it is necessary to do so, may relax any provisions of this Scheme.

20. **Amendment of Scheme:-** The Government may vary, amend or modify this Scheme from time to time.

By Order and in the
name of the Governor of Goa

(Sunil P. Masurkar)
Director & Ex-Officio Jt. Secretary
Women and Child Development