

1. Rajiv Gandhi Students Meritorious Scholarship

The Rajiv Gandhi Meritorious Students Scholarship Scheme (RGMSSS) is being implemented in the State of Goa since 2009. Through the RGMSSS since the last eight years Scholarships are being distributed every year to the first three rankers in each of the Secondary Schools (Std. X) and also to the first three rankers in each of the Higher Secondary Schools (Std XII) in the Goa Board Exam. An amount of Rs. 3000/- Rs. 2000/- and Rs. 1000/- is payable to Secondary School students and an amount of Rs. 4000/-, Rs. 3000/- and Rs. 2000/- is payable to the students of Higher Secondary Schools (of each Stream). In case there are more students sharing the same rank (same marks), then each student is awarded the Scholarship corresponding to the rank / marks he / she is sharing.

Generally circular in this regards is sent in the month of July to September every year and also posted on SCERT website.

2. Incentive Scholarship Scheme (Pradnya Shodh) for the students of Std. IV”.

1. Aims and objectives : The main objective of the scheme is to identify the hidden talent of the students at the end of Std. IV studying in vernacular medium in Rural, Urban and Slum area ,in Government as well as Government Aided schools only and to provide them financial assistance as an incentive for getting good education up to Std. X.

2. Eligibility:- All the students who score 60% and above marks in the first terminal examination of Std. IV are eligible to answer the qualifying examination.(Relaxation of 5% for the candidates belonging to Reserved Category)

The candidates shall have to answer the qualifying scholarship examination conducted by the State Council of Educational Research & Training.

The qualifying examination shall be held a week before the last day of the academic year preferably on SUNDAY.

3.Distribution of scholarships category wise per taluka shall be as follows:

Sr.No.	Category	Rural	Urban	Total
1	General	10	4	14
2	Children of Landless Laboure's	4	3	7
3	O.B.S.	4	4	8
4	S.C.	2	1	3
5	S.T.	2	1	3
6	Children from Slum Area	1	4	5
	Total	23	17	40

4. Implementing Agency:- The scheme shall be jointly implemented by the Directorate of Education and State Council of Educational Research & Training.

5. Procedure for Implementation :-

5.1 State Council of Educational Research & Training,(SCERT) shall conduct qualifying examination at the end of Academic year at all 12 Talukas.

5.2 The question paper of qualifying examination (Total 100 marks)shall consists of three subjects viz. Language (Marathi/Konkani/Urdu), Mathematics & Environmental Studies.

5.3 The weightage of marks shall be as follows:

- a) Language – 30 marks
- b) Mathematics – 40 marks
- c) Environmental Studies – 30 marks

3. SCERT is the nodal agency for conducting National Talent Search (NTS) examination in the state of GOA

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) was established by the Government of India in the year 1961 with a view to bringing about qualitative improvement in school education in the country. No sooner the Council was set up than it mounted a number of programmes in this direction. One such programme was to identify and nurture the talented students. This programme took up the shape of a scheme called National Science Talent Search Scheme (NSTSS) in the year 1963 which provided for the identification of talented students and awarding them with scholarships.

The candidates are subjected to two objective type written tests namely the Mental Ability Test (MAT) and the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). 100 each questions from MAT & SAT are to be answered by the candidates.

The following rates for various stages of education are

- a) Scholarship of Rs. 1250/- per months for class XI and XII.
- b) Scholarship of Rs. 2000/- per month for UG and PG.
- c) Scholarship for students pursuing Ph.D in accordance with UGC norms

In 2015 minimum qualifying marks for SC/ST/PH candidates were increased from 32% to 35%. In 2017 4% reservation to Physical Challenged Category was implemented for group of students, with benchmark disabilities of which, one per cent each shall be reserved for persons with benchmark disabilities under clauses (a), (b) and (c) and one per cent for persons with benchmark disabilities under clauses (d) and (e) namely:

- a) blindness and low vision;
- b) deaf and hard of hearing;
- c) locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured, dwarfism, acid attack victims and muscular dystrophy;
- d) autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness;
- e) multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf blindness in the posts identified for each disabilities.

From the year 2018-19 reservation to Other Backward Class (OBC) will be implemented in the NTS scheme. Besides, There will be reservations for OBCs @27% from the year 2019 as per central norms subject to the income limit notified by the Government of India from time to time for determination of the creamy layer for the purpose of OBC Reservation vide its letter No. 15-19/2014.Sch-4 dated November 2, 2017.

State quota for Goa is 50.

PRESENT SCHEME

The scholarship under the present scheme awarded to the candidates for pursuing courses in science and social science up to doctoral level and in professional courses like medicine and engineering up to second-degree level subject to the fulfillment of the conditions provided in this brochure. As on date 2000 scholarships are awarded in the country with reservation of 15 percent for SC, 7.5 percent for ST and 27 percent for other backward classes and 4 percent for group of students with benchmark disabilities.

Selection Procedure, National Level Examination,
Quota Allotted For States/UTS (2018-2019 & 2019-2020),
Rules and Regulations for Disbursement Of Scholarship,
Nurturance programme is mention in the brochure.

4. NATIONAL MEANS-CUM-MERIT SCHOLARSHIP (NMMSS) SCHEME

1) The Scheme:

1.1) Under this scheme, 100,000 scholarships are awarded to the gifted or meritorious students whose parental income is not more than Rs. 1,50,000/- per annum from all sources. Each State /UT have fixed quota of scholarship as given at Annexure of concerned age group of class VII and VIII. The scheme would provide reservation to different categories of students as per the State/UT norms; as different States/UTs have their own norms of reservation.

1.2) These scholarships will be provided on yearly basis to the students studying as regular students in class IX in a Government, Government-aided and local body schools which will be renewed for classes X, XI and XII. Thus, the scholarships will be for a maximum period of four years.

1.3) The amount of scholarship will be Rs. 12000/- per annum @ Rs. 1000 per month.

1.4) A separate examination shall be conducted by the State Governments/UT Administrations for selection of students for the award of the National Mean scum-Merit Scholarships in the States/UTs.

2) Procedure for Selection of Awardee Students:

2.1) Each State/UT will conduct its own test for selection of students for the award of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship. The State Level Examination may consist of the following two tests:

(i) Mental Ability Test (MAT) (ii) Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

2.2) The students shall have minimum of 55 % marks or equivalent grade in Class VII examination for appearing in selection test for award of scholarship (relax able by 5% for SC/ST students). The students should be studying as regular student in a Government, Government-aided and local body schools.

2.3) Mental Ability Test may consist of 90 multiple-choice questions testing verbal and non-verbal meta-cognitive abilities like reasoning and critical thinking. The questions in the test may be on analogy, classification, numerical series, pattern perception, hidden figure etc.

2.4) Scholastic Aptitude Test may consist of 90 multiple-choice questions covering subjects namely, science, social studies and mathematics as taught in classes VII and VIII.

2.5) Duration of the Test Each test will be of 90 minutes duration. Children with disability will be given extra time, as applicable.

3) Declaration of Results

3.1 For selecting the students, the following conditions may apply:

(i) The students must pass both the tests i.e. MAT and SAT with at least 40 % marks in aggregate taken together for these two tests. For the SC/ST students, this cut off will be 32% marks.

(ii) At the time of selection for the award of scholarship the student must have scored at least 55% mark or equivalent grade in Class VIII examination. There will be 5 % relaxation for SC/ST students.

(iii) The awardees should satisfy the eligibilities and the conditions mentioned in the scheme.

4) Disbursement of Scholarships

4.1) A student can avail only one Scholarship under any scheme.

4.2) The awardees will be required to open bank accounts preferably in SBI, or any public sector bank or any scheduled bank which has core banking facility.

4.3) The State Governments / UT Administrations shall normally send the proposals/ list of beneficiaries on-line on the Scholarship Portal. The Ministry will scrutinize the proposal and sanction funds from Annual Budget Provision for releasing them to SBI, the implementing bank for scheme for disbursement of scholarships to students directly into their bank accounts by electronic transfer.

4.4) The awardees should get minimum of 55% marks in Class IX and XI and 60% in Class X for continuance of scholarship (relax able by 5% for SC/ST candidates) in next higher classes.

4.5) SBI will ensure that the scholarship is paid to awardees in one go (Rs. 12000) immediately after getting the funds and the lists from the Ministry. 4.6 SBI will instruct some of its branches to coordinate with the State Education Department in connection with the payment of scholarships.

5) General Eligibility Conditions

5.1) An awardee is eligible for the scholarship provided he/she: i. takes up studies in approved courses. ii. maintains good conduct as certified by the Head of the College/Institution and continues his/her studies as a regular student in a Government/Government-aided /Local Body school. iii. does not absent himself/herself without proper leave. iv. takes up studies on a whole time basis. v. does not take up any job.

5.2) No scholarship shall be available for studies abroad for any course.

5.3) No claim for scholarship arrears will be entertained after the expiry of 12 months of the academic session for which one has applied for the claim.

5.4) In case any awardee leaves his/her course of study within one month of registration/admission, no scholarship shall be paid to him/her.

5.5) In case awardee is not able to appear at the annual examination due to serious illness, one should send the medical certificate through the Head of the Institution within three months of one's falling ill. The duration of illness should be clearly certified by a specialist, who is a Registered Medical Practitioner. The facility will be available to the awardee to continue the same course in which one is studying provided the principal or the head of the institution certifies that the overall performance of the awardee during the year is 50% or above.

5.6) The awardee must join the next class/desired course within 3 months of the declaration of the result of the previous class/course.

5.7) Scholarship shall be deemed to be discontinued with any gap of one academic session in studies at any time due to any reason. 5.8 Scholarship once discontinued on the basis of the rules of disbursement of scholarship cannot be revived under any circumstances. 5.9 All rules are subject to change from time to time, as and when required, which will be binding on all awardees.

6) Eligibility and other conditions for starting and continuing of Scholarship at Secondary and Higher Secondary Stage

6.1) The awardees should get clear promotion from class VIII to Class IX for being eligible for starting the scholarship.

6.2) The scholarship at the secondary and higher secondary stage or equivalent classes IX to XII is payable for a maximum period of four years for studies in India only.

6.3) No scholarship at this stage is payable for studying diploma/certificate level courses. 6.4 For continuing the scholarship in class X and XII, the awardees should get clear promotion from class IX to class X and from class XI to class XII in the first attempt with 55% marks (relax able by 5% for SC/ST students) 6.5 The awardees must obtain a minimum of 60 per cent marks in Class X (relax able by 5% for SC/ST students) examination or equivalent examination for continuation of the scholarship at higher secondary stage.

6.6) In case an institution/school does not conduct an examination at the end of Class IX and / or Class XI, the scholarship for the second year will be continued on the submission of a certificate to this effect from the Head of the Institution/School.

7) The scheme will be further in operation beyond March 2017 from the financial year 2017-18 and the selection test for the awarded of scholarship will be conducted for Class IX students in November every year as a separate test by the State Governments/UT Administrations.

8) A Technical Support Group (TSG) consisting of Consultants / support staff etc. may be constituted for assisting in effective implementation and monitoring of the scheme. 9.0 The scheme will be monitored in the Department at regular intervals with the concerned Stake holders. 10.0 The scheme may be reviewed after three years.

9) Quota of the Goa State is 144 scholarships.

5. Science Talent Search Exam

In Order to encourage the students to develop interest in Science and Mathematics and build a competitive spirit among them. SCERT conducts STSE for the Students from standard VIII to XII. The objective of STSE is to spot the young talents in the field of Science and also to acknowledge their talent by offering a cash prize. Top 50 students in the STSE merit list from Class VIII to X are eligible for the award of a cash prize of Rs. 2500/- each. Similarly, top 25 students in the STSE merit list from class XI and XII are awarded with a cash prize of Rs. 2500/- each.

6. Schemes and Programmes Pertaining to popularization and improvement of Science Education

SCERT has been actively working on a variety of activities for creating and nurturing interest for Science and Mathematics among the schools' kids. These activities range from conducting the Science Talent Search Examination to organizing Science Fairs, Exhibitions, Seminars, Workshops, Science Drama Competitions for school children. This Council conducts several other science programmes for students and teachers as well. There has been a strong link built up with Department of Science, Technology and Environment, Goa Science Centre, Nehru Science Centre, National Council of Science Museum which offer richer opportunities to the learners of science.

SCERT in collaboration with the department of Science, technology & Environment celebrates National Science Day every year on the birth anniversary of Prof. C.V.Raman. Approximately 1200 students and 200 teachers from across the state take part in the above programmes including the celebration of Science Day. SCERT also conducts Science Talent Search Examination every year for students from standard VII to XII to spot the young talents in the field of Science and also to acknowledge their talent.

7. Science Seminar

SCERT, Goa every year organizes Science seminars at Zonal and State level in the months of July and August for students of class VIII to X to motivate Secondary school students to explore new horizons in the field of Science. Initially six students each are selected from 3 educational Zones of Goa. Thus 18 students get selected from all over the state of which one student is selected for National Level Science Seminar organized by Nehru Science Centre, Worli, Mumbai.

8. National Science Day

To inculcate the spirit of scientific inquiry and to draw inspiration from the life and works of the great Scientists the SCERT, Goa in collaboration with Department of Science, Technology & Environment, Government of Goa celebrates National Science Day on 28th February every year under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Popularization of Science Education in Schools. On this occasion various competitions like Drawing, Essay writing, Poster Competition, Science Quiz Competition, Mathematics Quiz Competitions, Science Teachings Aid Competitions for B.Ed and D.Ed Students and workshops for teachers are conducted throughout the month of February.

9. Jawaharlal Nehru Science, Mathematics and environmental Exhibition

To develop scientific attitude and scientific temper and also to develop mathematical and reasoning aptitude among the students of Secondary and Higher secondary schools Jawaharlal Nehru Science, Mathematics and Environment Exhibition is organised by SCERT, Goa every year in collaboration with Department of Education in Science and Mathematics, NCERT, New Delhi.

10. Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research (INSPIRE) Manak

As you are aware that INSPIRE Awards Scheme implemented by MINISTRY OF Science and Technology has been revamped under the name “INSPIRE AWARDS MANAK”(Million Minds Augmenting National Aspiration and Knowledge) with a basic objective to instill Creative/Innovative thinking among school students in the age group of 10 – 15 years studying in class 6th – 10th. This was done to align this scheme with the objective of “Start – Up India” initially launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister of India.

In INSPIRE Awards scheme for school children (from class 6th – 10th) the changes have been undertaken to eliminate/reduce the possibility of children buying readymade models from market and to ensure continued relation between awardees and the DST after the completion of Award Ceremony.

During the year 2018-19, Department of Science and Technology – Delhi has selected innovative ideas of 80 students from Goa. Seven State Awardee students from Goa have participated at National Level. One student from Goa is selected at National Level. He will avail the benefit of Sukura Exchange Programme of Japan 2020.

It may kindly be noted that the registered schools under the INSPIRE Awards MANAK Scheme in each financial year can nominate 5 best ideas from their schools through online mode, in E – Management of INSPIRE Award Scheme (E – MIAS) at E – MIAS website

(www.inspireaward-dst.gov.in).

If your school has not been registered yet for “INSPIRE MANAK” in the National Portal. Then you are hereby instructed to register your school for “INSPIRE MANAK” so that the students can avail the benefit of the scheme. The instructions for registration are enclosed with this letter.