To

The Pay & Accounts Officer,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs,
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sub: Grants-in-aid being released to the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarships to the students belonging to Scheduled Tribes for the year 2013-14 as 1st instalment (Ad hoc grant)

Sir,

Sanction of the President of India is hereby conveyed to release an amount of Rs. 75,000/- [Rupees Seventy five thousand only] to the UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands as 1st instalment of recurring grant-in-aid (ad hoc grant) under the Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship to the students belonging to STs for the year 2013-14.

2. The Director of Accounts, UT of Andaman & Nicobar Islands may please be authorised to incur an expenditure of Rs. 75,000/- (Rupees Seventy five thousand only).

3. This sanction relates to Plan Expenditure and is in accordance with the pattern of assistance prescribed by the Planning Commission and subject to the provision of General Financial Rules, 2005 as amended from time to time and any other instructions issued in this regard.

4. The expenditure is debitable to the Major Head Grant sub-head as indicated below and shall be met from Plan Budget for the year 2013-14:

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<tr>
<th>Demand No.</th>
<th>Major Head, Sub Head</th>
<th>Amount Rs.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. 95 Ministry of Tribal Affairs</td>
<td>Major Head: 2225 -Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes, 02- Welfare of Scheduled Tribes (Sub-Major Head), 796-Tribal Areas Sub-Plan (Minor Head), 08-Welfare of Scheduled Tribes -Education, 04-Scheme of PMS, Book Bank and Upgradation of Merit of ST Students, 08.04.31-Grants-in-aid General (Plan) Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the year 2013-14.</td>
<td>Rs. 75,000/- (Rupees Seventy five thousand only).</td>
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5. The expenditure involved will be adjusted by the Pay & Accounts Officer, Ministry of Tribal Affairs on the basis of the Statement of Expenditure submitted by the Accounts Officer of the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Island, against the funds provided under the above mentioned budget sub-head.

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6. The amount will be drawn by the Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) O.M. No. (18)/786-CA/1099 dated 30-1-1976 and as modified vide OM of even number dated 16-9-1997 under information to this Ministry and submit an expenditure statement to the Pay and Accounts Officer, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi through SCT who will exhibit the amount in his appropriate accounts.

7. The grant-in-aid is subject to following further conditions to be complied with by the Union Territory Administration:

(i) The funds from this ad-hoc grant are to be released for Non-DBT districts only. Release of fund for districts of the UT selected for DBT, if any, will be made separately.

(ii) All States/UTs should prepare to move towards DBT mode of transfer of funds in all Districts i.e., digitising data, enrolling in Aadhaar, opening bank accounts and seeding these accounts. Rollout of DBT requires process re-engineering at the Government level. It would require changing the way business has been transacted so far, the way funds have been released and tracked and the information that is presently available on beneficiaries. It is necessary that a robust monitoring system is put in place.

(iii) The UT Administration will release this amount to the disburse agencies in the UT within one month of release by the Government of India and a copy of the UT Administration sanction should be endorsed to Ministry of Tribal Affairs without fail.

(iv) In order to distribute funds to everyone in a week fixed for every year, two “Scholarship distribution camps” should be organized in your UT every year at predetermined times. These camps should simultaneously be organized in the entire UT at a fixed date and time every year. UT Administration will ensure that the scholarships are disbursed within this month at the earliest.

(v) The district officers should compile the actual disbursements made in the previous year and submit the detailed proposal to the UT Administration who will complete it further and submit the proposal to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs by November of the financial year. The institution and category-wise number of students in each category should be indicated in a proforma as already prescribed by this Ministry. The district-wise and UT total may accordingly be arrived at and proposal of the UT Administration may be based on the same.

(vi) Just like the disbursement of the first instalment in September of the year, the second instalment to the students for the remaining five months of the year may be disbursed between 20-28 February of the next year on the same pattern as the disbursement of the first instalment and submit a report to the UT Administration that the scholarships to the genuine and eligible students have been disbursed indicating category wise distribution of the scholarships as per the format.

(vii) The UT Administration will also ensure that the disbursement is made to the eligible students through direct bank or post offices transfers.

(viii) In case, there is any difficulty in opening banks accounts due to reluctance of the banks, the district officer should report the matter to the concerned District Collectors who would instruct the bank branches to open bank accounts in the names of the eligible Scheduled Tribe students for this purpose. The UT Administration’s Finance Department or department dealing with institutional finance should also render necessary assistance in this regard.

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(ix) Further, the Districts must prepare for the transfer through DBT mode. In this regard the following steps needs to be taken at the District level:

a. UT Administration should make efforts to digitize the beneficiary database and convert data from Excel sheets to standardized formats developed by NIC (details available http://dbtapp.gov). The digitization of databases should be done in all districts irrespective of their selection for DBT.

b. UT Scheme Administrator should be designated for this scheme, who should obtain Digital Signature Certificates (DSC) from the respective NIC Unit.

c. The beneficiary database in DBT districts should be verified and authenticated by the UT Scheme Administrator through DSC.

d. In addition to digitization and authentication of beneficiary database through DSC in the software, copy of the same should be made available to the Ministry through email as well as in hardcopy.

e. UT should make all out efforts to ensure that all beneficiaries of the scheme have bank accounts and Aadhaar number by pursuing with Lead Banks and UIDAI.

f. Through process reengineering of the scheme, the fund flow route may be raised to that funds are credited directly into the accounts of the beneficiaries from the UT Administration with minimum intermediaries.

(x) The events of disbursement of the scholarships in two instalments as specified above should be given wide publicity throughout the State through local newspapers so that everyone concerned is aware of these events and avails of it in time.

(xi) The details of the students category-wise, out station-wise etc. have to be furnished to this Ministry before release of 2nd instalment.

(xii) Further, the UT Administration should create enabling environment for DBT mode transfer in all the Districts for which following steps needs to be taken:

a. UT should coordinate with UT/district level NIC and organize training for UT/district level functionaries in software and digitization of beneficiary database.

b. Efforts should be made for seeding Aadhaar with beneficiary database. For this, adequate technology support is needed which may be sought from State/District NIC unit.

c. Wherever beneficiaries do not have Aadhaar number, they may be enrolled for Aadhaar by the UIDAI Registrar.

d. Wherever beneficiaries have bank accounts, efforts should be made to link with Aadhaar number.

e. Wherever beneficiaries do not have bank accounts they will have to be opened, for which Aadhaar may be used as KYC, by the Lead Bank/Bank Branch. The new bank account will then be seeded with Aadhaar.

f. An awareness campaign to be initiated to inform the beneficiaries of the programme and to encourage enrolment in Aadhaar and opening bank account.

g. Robust but easy to access grievance redressal systems to be put in place to mitigate unforeseen hardships, system failures etc. and to ensure there is no denial of service to beneficiaries without Aadhaar or bank accounts.

8. Diversion of funds and deviation from the norms of the scheme shall not be allowed.

9. This is 1st instalment grant-in-aid (ad hoc grant) for the year 2013-14. The final grant will be released on receipt of the formal proposal for the year 2013-14 alongwith Utilisation Certificate of the previous releases and this instalment will be adjusted against the proposal for the current financial year. The instalment is being released to avoid the delay in disbursement.
of Post Matric Scholarships to ST students. The UT Administration should send the proposal for the current financial year urgently so that the final grants-in-aid under the Scheme may be released.

10. This sanction issues keeping in view the instructions contained in the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance O.M. No. C-28368/177-MFCSGA dated 4th June 1977. The UT Administration is requested to ensure that the instructions are scrupulously followed.

11. The UT Administration is requested that before submitting requisition for the second instalment of scholarships, utilisation of funds of the previous years and the disbursement of the 1st instalment of scholarship for the current year released now have to be furnished to this Ministry without fail.

12. As the first instalment is being released now, disbursement of this instalment of scholarship should be done by September of this year.

13. This sanction is being issued with the concurrence of Integrated Finance of this Ministry vide their Dy. No. 490/JS&FA/2013 dated 19-08-2013.

Yours faithfully,

(Roopak Chaudhuri)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. # 011-23070508

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

(i) The Accounts Officer, Dte. Of Education, UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Port Blair. They are requested to submit the monthly expenditure statements after making the payments against the functional head of this Ministry.

(ii) The Secretary, Tribal Welfare Department, UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Port Blair.

(iii) The Director, Education Department, UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Port Blair.

(iv) The Secretary, Finance Department, UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Port Blair.

(v) The Secretary, Planning Department, UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Port Blair.

(vi) Director of Audit, Central Revenues, I.P. Estate, New Delhi.

(vii) Planning Commission, BC Division, New Delhi.

(viii) Resident Commissioner, UT Administration of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andaman & Nicobar Island Bhawan, New Delhi.

(ix) PS to JS(SR), Jt. Dir.(Education), US (IFD), Education Section’s Guard File, Spare copy (2).