

**No.11014/22/2012-SCD-II**  
**Government of India,**  
**Department of Social Justice & Empowerment**

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110115  
Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2013

To

The Principal Secretary/Secretary,  
Department of Social Welfare/Scheduled Castes Development,  
27 State Govt./UT Administration

Subject:- **Guidelines for utilisation of funds in Skill Development Programmes under the Central Sector Scheme of Special Central Assistance(SCA) to Scheduled Caste Sub Plan(SCSP).**

Sir,

Government of India in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing a "**Central Sector Scheme of Special Central Assistance(SCA) to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan(SCSP)**" since 1980 for the development of Scheduled Castes who form the major chunk of the country's population living below the poverty line. The main objective of this scheme is to give a thrust to family oriented schemes of economic development of Scheduled Castes living below the poverty line. The important provisions of the scheme, inter alia, include the following: Utilisation of 15% and 5% of total SCA released in a year to be used for the economic development of SC women and disabled persons among SCs respectively; Upto 10% of the total SCA released in a year can be utilized for infrastructure development programmes in villages having more than 50% SC population; Upto 3% of SCA released in a year can be utilised for monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.

2. This Ministry, vide letter No.11014/8/2003-SCD-II, dated 29.03.2007 (copy enclosed), had also issued guidelines for utilisation of funds for economic development of the SC target group by laying emphasis on training and skill development, as well as working out forward linkages for employment and occupational diversification in the primary, secondary and tertiary sectors. However, so far, there was no earmarking of funds under the Scheme, specifically for skill development programmes.

3. The State Governments/UT Administrations are, therefore, requested that at least 10% of the funds of SCA to SCSP should be utilised for skill development programmes within existing framework of the Scheme w.e.f the current financial year 2013-14, in order to enhance the employability of the target group.

4. This issues with approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,  
Sd/-  
(Sanjeev Kumar)  
Joint Secretary to Government of India

Encl: As above

**No.11014/8/2003-SCD-II**

**Government of India  
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated 29.3.2007

To,  
(27 States/UTs)

**Subject: - Guidelines for utilization of Special Central Assistance (SCA) to the Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP).**

The fundamental objectives and the basic operative principles of the approved Special Central Assistance scheme are (a) economic development of the SC target groups by way of employment or self employment either in primary or secondary or tertiary sectors, (b) Special emphasis on training and skill development with forward linkages for employment and occupational diversification.

2. It has been the endeavor of this Ministry to serve the larger cause of the target groups by guiding the State Governments in directing their efforts and initiatives from time to time. As a further initiative, the Ministry has decided to draw a new road map for the empowerment of the SC target groups in tune with the opportunities offered by the modern era of globalization and liberalization. In this exercise the most important component is quality and excellence, both in professional education and training which have a direct linkage with high -end employment.

3. The need of the hour is to promote sunrise sectors through the Special Central Assistance mechanism without leaving any scope or possibility for dilution of the qualitative excellence of the new programmes. While doing so the emphasis would rest on choosing the best out of the available market by diligent observance of norms of propriety and transparency. It is thus felt necessary to include capacity building programmes matching the new sunrise high-end sectors within the existing format of the scheme of Special Central Assistance. An illustrative list of such sectors is Commercial Pilot Course, Aviation and Hospitality Course, course in Fashion Technology, General Nursing Course and Hotel Management Course. These are all income generating activities and fit into the scheme of Special Central Assistance.

4. The recent public private partnership initiative taken by the Government of Karnataka in such high-end sunrise sectors have come to the notice of this Ministry. They have started various training courses after a competitive exercise and deliberate

effort to have minimal possible costs. This Ministry would like similar or better initiatives by other States also.

5. The focus of Special Central Assistance is to bring in economic development through occupational diversification and professionalization in a changing market situation. The development approach of the Governments therefore needs to change with the changing course of Indian economy. The States need to identify the activities according to their felt needs and support them through Special Central Assistance if they fit into the broad mandate of the scheme.

6. With these amplifications, the State Governments/UT Administrations are requested to open up more avenues for the SC youth to prove their potential and excellence in high-end income generating activities.

7. These guidelines will come into effect/introduced from 2007-08

8. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours sincerely,  
Sd/-  
(Arbind Prasad)  
Joint Secretary to Government  
of India