

DIRECTORATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171001

PRESS RELEASE

The Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India has opened the **National Scholarship Portal** for Annual Year **2022-23** to implements the Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Schemes for the Minorities and the students can apply under these schemes through URL www.scholarships.gov.in or through the link available on www.minorityaffairs.gov.in or through Mobile App- National Scholarships (NSP). Scholarships are awarded under these Schemes to the economically weaker and meritorious students from the six centrally notified minorities' viz. **Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Sikh, and Zoroastrian (Parsis)** pursuing studies in India in a Government or recognised Private University /Institute/College/School.

2. The Central Government has decided to open the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) for both fresh and renewal applications as per the following timelines:-

For Post-Matric /Top Class/MCM scholarship Schemes

Opening of NSP Portal	:	20th July, 2022
Last date for application submission.	:	31st October, 2022
Last date for INO Level Verification.	:	15th November, 2022
Last date for Second Level Verification	:	30th November, 2022

***Only Online Applications under the Schemes will be accepted and no request for offline applications will be entertained.**

1. All renewal applications/ students, who have got scholarship during 2021-22, shall apply by giving their **existing Application ID**.
2. All Universities/ Institutes/Colleges/Schools, having valid AISHE/U-DISE/NCVT/SCVT codes, located in the State/UT should be advised to register themselves and their courses details on the NSP at the earliest so that their students can apply and they can verify such applications on the Portal within the **timelines**.
3. The timelines need to be adhered to **strictly**. Technical issue, if any arising during the process of online submission, generation of merit lists and payment lots may be resolved **immediately in consultation with the NIC HQ or State NICs at the earliest**.
4. It has been observed that after the **last date (s) of verification**, a large number of **Fresh** as well as **Renewal** applications are **left pending** for verification at L1 level by Institute Nodal Officers. Also ensure that no application remains **unverified** after the **last date (s) of verification** during 2022-23.
5. All Verification Authorities (INO/DNO/SNO) can mark an application **fake** if he/she is satisfied that the applicant is **not a bonafide student** in other circumstances, in case of **non-fulfilment of eligibility criteria** or **inconsistency of records**, the verifying authority may either **reject** the application or mark it **defective** and give the applicant another opportunity to correct their records.
6. It needs to be noted by all the INOs and DNOs that in case if any application is marked **fake** at **L2 level** by the **DNO** or the **SNO** then the entire bunch of applications from that School/Institute will **go back** to the respective **INO login** of that School/Institute for re-verification. Hence the DNOs/SNOs are advised to **exercise caution** while using the option of making an application fake.

7. To ensure **Aadhaar** based **demographic authentication** of Institute /District/State Nodal Officer level. The option of rejecting a **payment file** on the basis of 'fake' applications has been restricted and therefore the SNOs may **exercise utmost caution** while rejecting payment file on NSP Portal. Aadhaar demographic based on applicant's details i.e. **name, gender and year of birth** as given in Aadhaar, has been introduced on NSP Portal.

8. **Aadhaar** based demographic authentication of Institute /District Nodal Officers (INOs/DNOs) has been made **mandatory** prior to the verification of the application by them for which the INOs/DNOs have to provide their **Aadhaar number** on NSP Portal. The facility of Aadhaar based authentication of **L1 and L2** level officers has been made **live** on the NSP Portal and the **OTP** generated during the process will be sent to the **mobile number registered with the Aadhaar** of INO/DNO/SNO. NSP will be using the same mobile no. for all communication and sending OTPs in future. The NSP login of the INO would be operational post completion of KYC at NSP using the Aadhaar number of the INO.

Therefore, all the Head(s) of Institution(s)/ School(s)/ College(s)/ Universities/ Deputy Directors of Higher Education, Himachal Pradesh are requested to take note of the above decision and initiate appropriate action accordingly.

27 JUL 2022

(Dr. Amarjeet K. Sharma)
Director of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla -1

Endst. No.EDN-H(10)A(7)2/2009-Advertisements- Shimla, Dated:

July, 2022

Copy forwarded to:

1. The Pr. Secretary (Edu.), to the Govt. HP Shimla-2 for information please.
2. The Under Secretary (DBT), Cabinet Secretariat, DBT Mission, 4th Floor, Shivaji Annexe, Rajiv Chowk, New Delhi-110001 w.r.t. to Letter No. D-12011/03/2022-DBT dated 15th July, 2021.
3. The Joint Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Minority Affairs, 11th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi- 110003.
4. All the District Collectorate Offices _____ of Himachal Pradesh with request to place hoardings of the aforesaid three scholarship schemes for minority students and promote the awareness for the minority students as well as Institution Registration on NSP portal.
5. The Director, Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities & the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh-171009 for information please.
6. The Director, All India Radio Centre, Shimla-171004.
7. The Director, Doordarshan Centre, Shimla-171004.
8. The Editor, The Tribune, The Indian Express, The Times of India, Hindustan Times, Amar Ujala, Divya Himachal, Punjab Kesari, Dainik Bhaskar, Dainik Jagran, Shimla to publish the Press Release on Newspaper.
9. The Director, Public Information and Public Relation Department, Himachal Pradesh, Shimla - 171002, for publication please.
10. The TO, IT Cell, DHE HP, with direction to upload the above Press Release on the Departmental website.

(Dr. Amarjeet K. Sharma)
Director of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1