

No.EDN-HE(10)F(10)01/2025
Directorate of Higher Education,
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-1
Tel:0177-2656622, E.mail:nsphpsml@gmail.com, Fax: 2812882

To Dated Shimla-1 the 17th Oct., 2026

The Vice Chancellor/ Registrar/ Principal,
Govt. and Pvt. Universities / Colleges / other Educational Institutions, of Himachal Pradesh,
All the Deputy Directors of School Education (Secondary),
Himachal Pradesh.
All the Deputy Directors of School Education (Elementary)
Himachal Pradesh
All the Principals/ Headmasters,
Govt./Pvt. Sr. Sec./ High Schools in,
Himachal Pradesh

Subject:- **Regarding upcoming Department Summit of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.**

With reference to letter No. 11-2/2018-ESOMSA-Sch(WEL)-V-18091 dated 17th October, 2026 on the subject cited above, received from the Director, Empowerment of SC of SCs, OBCs, Minorities & specially Abled H.P. (copy enclosed) vide which concept note on one of the topic "One Nation, One Scholarship Portal- Accessible Scholarships, Empowered Students has been received from GoI (copy Enclosed).

Hence, it is requested to all stakeholders to send their feedback Note on prescribed performa attached as Annexure-II on or before 22nd October 2026 to this department.

- sd -
Director of Higher Education-cum-
State Nodal Officer Scholarship,
Himachal Pradesh

Endst. No. Even Dated Shimla-1 the 17th Oct., 2026

Copy for information and necessary action is forwarded to:-

1. The Director of School Education with request to issue directions to the institutes under your administrative control to take necessary action in this regard.
2. The Technical Officer, IT Cell of Higher Education with the directions to upload the letter on the Departmental website.
3. Guard File.


Director of Higher Education-cum-
State Nodal Officer Scholarship,
Himachal Pradesh

No. 11-2/2018-ESOMSA-Sch(WEL)-V- 1809 /
Directorate for the Empowerment of SCs, OBCs,
Minorities & the specially Abled Himachal Pradesh.

From

The Director,
Empowerment of SC of SCs, OBCs,
Minorities & the specially Abled H.P.

To

The Director,
Higher Education H.P. Shimla-171001

Dated: Shimla-09 17 OCT 2026 17 October, 2026

Subject: Regarding upcoming Departmental Summit of Ministry of
Social Justice & Empowerment.

Madam,

Please find enclosed herewith a D.O F.No K-17015/1/2026-SCD-V dated 06.10.2026 received from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi on the subject cited above, vide which concept note on one of the topic "One Nation, One Scholarship Portal – Accessible Scholarships, Empowered Students has been received from GoI (copy enclosed).

Since, the scheme is being implemented by your Department, it is requested that the matter may kindly be examined and necessary action be taken accordingly under intimation to this Directorate please.

Encl:-As above

Yours faithfully,

17/10/2026

Additional Director
Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities
& the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh

Dated

Endst. No.-18092 17 OCT 2026

Copy forwarded to the Secretary, Education to the Government of Himachal Pradesh for kind information please.

17/10/2026

Additional Director
Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, Minorities
& the Specially Abled Himachal Pradesh

F. No. K-17015/1/2026-SCD-V
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
(Department of Social Justice & Empowerment)
(SCD-V)

GPOA-3, New Delhi
Dated the 06th October, 2026

To,

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal
Secretary/Secretary/Additional Secretary/Commissioner/Director/In-
charges Social Welfare Department/BC Welfare Department of all
States/UTs

Subject: Upcoming Departmental Summit of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment- Reg.

Respected Ma'am/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the forthcoming Departmental Summit of the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, which is also expected to be graced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. Scholarship has been identified as one of the key themes for discussion during the Summit.

2. The exact dates of the two-day Summit will be intimated separately. The States/UTs may note that the broad details regarding the Summit have already been communicated during the Secretary-level Review Meetings and Video Conferences (VCs) held with the States/UTs. The present communication is accordingly intended to facilitate receipt of the requisite inputs and information for further preparation and coordination in connection with the Summit.

3. The concept note on Scholarship has already been circulated to all States/UTs for reference (copy enclosed). States/UTs are requested to consult their concerned stakeholders, as considered appropriate, and furnish consolidated inputs/suggestions on the concept note, duly incorporating the relevant suggestions emerging from such consultations on the NITI Aayog Portal, to facilitate focused deliberations and preparation of the Summit material.

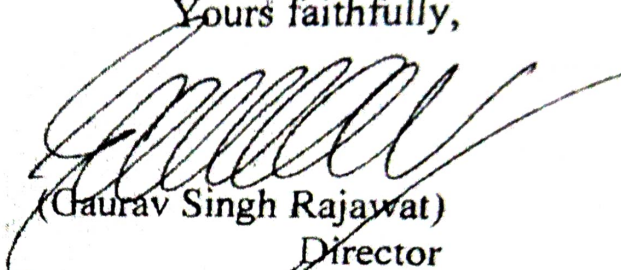
4. It is further informed that NITI Aayog will provide a digital platform for the Summit. For creation of login credentials on the said platform, the official email IDs (Gov/NIC email IDs) of the Principal Secretaries/Administrative Secretaries of the concerned Social Welfare Departments of the States/UTs are

required. The requisite email IDs may, therefore, be shared with this Department at the earliest. The details of the portal will be shared soon.

5. It is requested that the inputs being arrived after the consultations may be recorded under the Scholarship theme category on the NITI Aayog Portal and may be furnished with the approval of the concerned Principal Secretary/Administrative Secretary. The Summit carries importance and hence this must be accorded high priority.

Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,



(Gaurav Singh Rajawat)
Director

Copy for information to:
Chief Secretary, All States and UTs

Concept Note

"One Nation One Scholarship" Portal: Accessible Scholarships, Empowered Students

एक राष्ट्र एक छात्रवृत्ति पोर्टल: सुलभ छात्रवृत्ति, समर्थ छात्र

1. Introduction

The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) administer a number of scholarship schemes aimed at promoting equitable access to education for students belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (DNTs), Economically Backward Classes (EBCs) and other aspirational sections.

2. Current Scholarship Delivery Ecosystem

The Department has undertaken several technology-enabled reforms to strengthen the scholarship delivery ecosystem and make it more transparent, efficient, and beneficiary-centric. These reforms have focused on simplifying the application process, ensuring secure and timely disbursement of scholarships, improving the authenticity of beneficiaries, and reducing leakages.

2.1 Key Reforms Undertaken

- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) as the online digital platform
- Scholarships disbursement through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in Aadhaar seeded accounts
- Aadhaar-based Authentication
- De-duplication Mechanism
- End-to-End Digital Registration, Verification and Payment

2.2. Impact of the Reforms

- Strengthened the scholarship delivery ecosystem by making it more accessible, transparent, and secure.
- The adoption of digital platforms and Aadhaar-enabled DBT has ensured that scholarship benefits reach authentic beneficiaries directly, while minimizing leakages, duplication, and delays.

3. Challenges to be Addressed

- Multiple Scholarship ecosystems

- Lack of appropriate choices with the eligible candidates
- Limited awareness among beneficiaries and institutions
- Student-driven application process
- Fragmented beneficiary databases
- Lack of intelligent beneficiary mapping
- Limited use of analytics and predictive monitoring
- Reactive rather than proactive outreach

4. Proposed Reforms

4.1 "One Nation, One Scholarship Portal"- NSP as a single unified Scholarship portal

- A unified national platform for harmonised application, verification, sanction, renewal, and payment processes while supporting scheme-specific requirements.
- Common beneficiary registry with Aadhaar-based deduplication and lifecycle management.
- Seamless interoperability with key Digital Public Infrastructure components including Aadhaar, DigiLocker, APAAR, National Academic Depository, UIDAI, NPCI, DBT Bharat Portal, and other Government registries.
- AI-enabled identification of potentially eligible beneficiaries through secure integration with Government databases, enabling proactive outreach instead of relying solely on beneficiary applications. AI-powered multilingual grievance redressal, chatbot assistance, and beneficiary support.

4.2 Direct Disbursement of Central share to OBC students: The central share of scholarship disbursement under the Centrally Sponsored OBC scholarship schemes will be done through DBT directly into the Aadhaar seeded bank accounts of the eligible OBC applicants beginning this year which will increase the outreach of the Government of India

4.3 Ease of Living and placing beneficiary experience at the center:

- Simple and user-friendly application process.
- Multilingual digital facilities.
- Easy availability of services through mobile devices
- Information on application status.
- Periodic automated notifications and messages
- Effective grievance redressal mechanism.
- Assisted access to digital services.

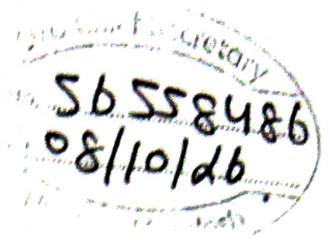
5. Expected Outcomes

- National Scholarship Portal as a Single Unified Scholarship Portal with the vision of "One Nation One Scholarship Portal" as a one-stop digital ecosystem for all scholarship schemes of this Department.
- This will provide a seamless, paperless and faceless interface for students, educational institutions, States/UTs and Ministries.
- Enhanced outreach and saturation of scholarship schemes by proactively identifying and reaching eligible beneficiaries across the country.
- Improved accessibility and convenience through a unified, technology-enabled, multilingual scholarship ecosystem with simplified and assisted application processes.
- Intelligent beneficiary-to-scholarship mapping, enabling students to identify and apply for the scholarship scheme that best matches their eligibility and offers the maximum admissible benefits.
- Timely identification and application through proactive notifications, reminders, and AI-enabled support, reducing missed opportunities and improving scholarship uptake.
- Reduced application burden through pre-filled applications, automated eligibility assessment, and minimal documentation requirements using verified government data.

6. Issues for Deliberations by States and UTs

- Which processes can be standardized across Ministries/ Departments/ States and UTs and what legal or policy constraints exist for data sharing
- How can AI support beneficiary identification without compromising privacy
- What KPIs should be monitored at the national level
- What changes would be required to migrate to a unified scholarship platform?
- What challenges States foresee in migration to a unified National Portal
- What support would the State require from the Central Government
- What institutional capacity (PMU, manpower, infrastructure) is available
- What awareness mechanisms are currently used to reach eligible students
- What is the preparedness status of the States
- What additional efforts are required to strengthen the list mile delivery
- What futuristic reforms may be brought to ease the burden on the students

F. No. K-17015/1/2026-SCD-V
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
(Department of Social Justice & Empowerment)
(SCD-V)



GPOA-3, New Delhi
Dated the 06th October, 2026

To,
Additional Chief Secretary/Principal
Secretary/Secretary/Additional Secretary/Commissioner/Director/In-
charges Social Welfare Department/BC Welfare Department of all
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X
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Encl: As above

Yours faithfully,



(Gaurav Singh Rajawat)
Director

Copy for information to:
Chief Secretary, All States and UTs



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

ANNEXURE II

Departmental Summit
Feedback Note by Individual Officers

Section 1: Officer's Name and Details

1. Name of the officer	
2. Designation	
3. Name of the Department	
4. Name of the topic / theme	

Section 2: Feedback Note by Individual Officers

- 1. Name of the topic**
(Choose from the topics of the conference)
- 2. Policy Gaps and Challenges**
(Current policy challenges, administrative and implementing challenges with respect to the topic selected)
- 3. Potential Solutions**
(Can potentially highlight new technology solutions, scope for convergence with other schemes / programmes, etc.)
- 4. Best Practices**
(Highlights the practices, which are sustainable, replicable, scalable, monitorable, etc. Can also highlight the block/district/State level practices)



सत्यमेव जयते

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

Instructions for Filing Feedback Note

1. **References:** In-text citing as well as the listing of all the references used for compiling the data and information. *Hyperlinks can be added in the document.*
2. **Documentation style:**
 - Microsoft Word – Paper Size A4 with **one-inch margin** from all four sides
 - Font: ***Times New Roman***
 - Font Size: Title **14 pt**; Section Heading – **12 pt**; Body Text **11 pt**
 - Line Spacing: **1.25**
 - Use additional spacing for section heading with spacing (After) – **6 pt**