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Merit Scholarship Scheme for the Wards of Main Project Affected Families/ Project Affected Families

I. Introduction

With a view to improve literacy and educational standards in the Project Affected Area of all the projects being executed by it leading to increased employability, the HPPCL (Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Ltd.) intends to institute a merit scholarship scheme besides contributing to educational institutions by way of infrastructure support. The Merit Scholarship Scheme with the following objectives seeks to help the wards of Project Affected Families (PAF) pursue their education.

- i. To minimize the number of dropouts who are meritorious but financially not sound.
- ii. To enhance educational standards and employability of the wards of PAF.
- iii. To encourage the meritorious students in furtherance of their education and to extend financial assistance enabling them to pursue higher education.
- iv. To create a pool of potential candidates in the area capable of making meaningful contribution to the local economy including the project of HPPCL in future.

The Scheme shall cover following two categories of wards and students.

- a) Students/wards who have got admission on their own merit but need financial support to pursue the course.
- b) Students/wards that are given admission against the seats purchased by HPPCL.

II. Period and availability of Scholarship

- i. The implementation of this scheme in all the projects of HPPCL may be started immediately after notification under section 4 of LAA. The scheme will remain in force for a period of one (01) year after commissioning of the project.
- ii. The Scheme would be funded from R&R Plan till commissioning of the project. However, if the date of commissioning of the project happens to be in mid-session of the academic year, the Scholarship Scheme would continue till the end of the academic session.

- iii. Number of scholarship for each project will be fixed from time-to-time as per number of MPAFs/PAFs and available budget.

III. Eligibility Criteria for selection of the students for Scholarships

The students should be a family member/ward of MPAF, MPAF-S, PAF and PAA which includes "The head of MPAF, MPAF-S, PAF and resident of PAA or his/her spouse, his/her sons, daughters, step sons, step daughters, grand sons and grand daughters".

(Note- Definition and meaning of the terms MPAF, PAF and PAA shall be same as given in the approved R&R Plan which is also available at HPPCL website (<http://hppcl.gov.in>). The definition of MPAF-S is not given in the approved R&R and the same is defined as below:

MPAF-S: The joint ownership of the villagers on pastures and wastelands, part of the forest surrounding villages, river beds, irrigation channel and common paths and if the above mentioned area has/been acquired by project proponent for project related activities then the whole villagers will be declared as MPAF-S.

Selection will be made only on Merit basis and preference will be given in the following order.

- i) MPAF- if no child of family has got scholarship yet.
- ii) MPAF-if some child of family has already got scholarship.
- iii) MPAF Shamlat land (MPAF-S) - if no child of family has got scholarship yet.
- iv) MPAF Shamlat land (MPAF-S) - if some child of family has already got scholarship.
- v) PAF- if no child of family has got scholarship yet.
- vi) PAF-if some child of family has already got scholarship.
- vii) PAA-if no child of family has got scholarship yet.
- viii) PAA-if some child of family has already got scholarship.
- ix) Firstly all applications in 1st category shall be exhausted and then applicants from 2nd category and so on shall be selected meaning that next category shall be considered only if none of eligible is available in previous category
- x) If marks obtained by two applicants in same class are equal in a particular category then preference will be given to one becoming both landless and houseless, then landless and then houseless and then quantum of land being acquired in terms of area/bigha.
- xi) While selecting candidates against professional degree and non professional degree, the candidates pursuing professional degrees be given priority over

those pursuing non-professional degree. Only in the eventuality of non availability of professional course candidates, the candidates for non-professional degree course be given opportunity.

- xii) Scholarship is also available for exceptionally meritorious students (95% and above marks) from PAA and PAZ irrespective of MPAF, MPAF-S and PAF category based on results of 10th and 12th applying under standard and discipline mentioned at S.N.2 and also first year student of courses mentioned at S.N 4,5,6 as per table mentioned at point IV.
- xiii) The students should be studying in School, College, Government educational institutes and any other educational institute recognized/affiliated to State Government /Government of India.
- xiv) The courses, standards, discipline eligible for the scholarships listed in this scheme may be modified in exceptional circumstances by HPPCL.

IV. Courses/standards/disciplines, amount and duration of scholarship

The Scholarships would be available for the following courses with amount are tabulated below.

S.N.	Standard/Discipline	Rate of Scholarship	Duration of scholarship for selected candidates
1.	Matriculation (from 6 th standard up to 10 th standard)	Rs. 500/ - pm	One Year
2.	Plus Two (11 th & 12 th standard)	Rs. 700/- pm	One Year
3.	Vocational Training (ITI)	Rs. 1000/- pm	One Year
4.	Diploma in Engineering/ Pharmacy/Computer	Rs. 1500/- pm	One Year
5.	Professional/Non Professional degree (B.Sc, M.Sc, BCA)	Rs.1600/-pm	One Year
6.	Degree in Engineering/ Medicine/ Computer (or MCA)	Rs. 2000/- pm	One Year

The Scholarship would be awarded on year to year basis depending upon the number of scholarships fixed for a particular project.

V. General Conditions

Following conditions shall govern the scholarships.

1. The number of students will be selected from each discipline of standards as per the detail given above. However, if sufficient numbers of eligible students based on merit are not available in any standard/discipline, then the funds will be allocated for other standard/discipline. Such re-appropriation of fund shall be

decided by HPPCL under special circumstances and shall be binding on the applicants and affected families.

2. Out of the total budget allocated for a year, a minimum of 30% of the budget shall be utilized for the students studying in schools, colleges or institutions in the district or locality in which the project is situated. If sufficient eligible students from these schools, colleges or institutions are not available, the fund shall be re-allocated to other category/categories by HPPCL and the same shall be binding on the affected families and their wards.
3. The eligible students may apply for the grant of scholarship on the format prescribed, which shall be issued by HPPCL in the month of May of every year. The duly filled in application forms shall be scrutinized by HPPCL in July month of that year and the intimation to the selected candidates shall be given in the month of August of that year. In case of delay in publication of annual exam the time period for the submission of application can be extended and the scrutiny of the application forms and intimation to the selected candidates shall be done in the next month accordingly.
4. The amount of scholarship shall be released on **two** half yearly basis. The selected students will apply half-yearly for the release of scholarship as per requisition form to be prescribed. In first half, the amount shall be released for the month of July to December of the year and in next half, the amount shall be released for the month of January to June of the next year. The amount of scholarship shall be released in two half yearly installments. First installment on the basis of previous examination's result and the second installment on the basis of successfully passing the half yearly examination, If a candidate fails in half-yearly examination, his/her scholarship shall be stopped; However if he/she passes the final examination, the second installment may then be released as arrears.
5. The submission of application for scholarship shall not guarantee the grant of scholarship.
6. The award of scholarship by HPPCL shall not be a guarantee to any student for employment in or with HPPCL.
7. The HPPCL Management shall reserve the right to accept or reject any or all applications without assigning any reasons. HPPCL also reserves the right to reduce/increase the number of beneficiary students, to change eligibility criterion, to change amount of scholarships and to discontinue scholarships. HPPCL decision in this regard shall be final and it shall not be open to any legal recourse.
8. Selection will be made purely on merit basis. Final prioritization of candidates for grant of scholarship shall be done by the R&R Corporate Office on the basis of

information provided by the Project Office and same shall be placed before the selection committee. The selection committee decision shall be final and binding.

9. Constitution of the selection committee shall be as under.
 - (i) Head of the Project
 - (ii) Representative of Deputy Commissioner concerned
 - (iii) Representative of project level R&R cell.
 - (iv) Representative of project level finance wing

VI. Procedure for application

The eligible candidates shall apply on the form duly printed by HPPCL and issued to the students by R&R office free of cost. The application form duly filled-in along with the following documents before the last date of submission on prescribed form would be taken from each applicant.

1. Proof of belonging to MPAF, MPAF-S, PAF or residing in the Project Affected Area along with description of asset being acquired for HPPCL project
2. Attested copy/photo copy of marks sheet of previous annual exam passed.
3. Two Nos. of passport size photographs attested by the head of the College/Institute. One to be pasted on application form and other attached with the form.
4. The application must be signed by the student and parents.
5. The application form must be duly attested by Pradhan of the Panchayat and head of the college/institute.
6. The application form duly filled in should be submitted within prescribed date to the Officer to be notified by HPPCL.
