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**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES**

(A Constitutional Commission set up under Art. 338A of the Constitution to investigate and monitor all matters relating to violation of rights and safeguards provided for STs.)

File No.Policy/17/2013/Dev./MTA(EFC)/RU-II

Dated 10/07/2013

To

Shri Roopak Chaudhuri,
Deputy Secretary,
Education Section,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi

Sub: Note for Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) – Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme for Education of ST Children proposed to be implemented in the 12th Five Year Plan period from 2013-14 to 2016-17 and beyond

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your O.M. No. 19012/16/2012-Education dated 21/06/2013 forwarding a copy of the Draft Note for EFC on the subject on the above subject for seeking comments of NCST and to say that the subject matter was discussed as Agenda Item No. XIV in the 48th Meeting of the Commission held on 09/07/2013.

2. The Relevant Extracts from the Summary Record of the meeting of the Commission are enclosed for information and necessary action (Annexure-I). It is requested that information about action taken as per directions contained in the Cabinet Secretariat O.M. No. 1/3/2/2012-Cab. Dated 16/02/2013 (Annexure-II) on the views and observations of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on the subject matter and the nature and the manner in which those views have been incorporated, may be forwarded this Commission urgently for including the same in the Annual Report of the Commission.

Yours faithfully,

(M.S.Chopra)
Director

Encl: Annexure I & II

Copy with copies of enclosures forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

1. SSA (NIC) for uploading on the Website of NCST
2. Assistant Director (Coordination)

Relevant Extracts from the Summary Record of the meeting of the Commission held on 09/07/2013

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| Agenda Item XIV | Note for Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC)-Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme for Education of ST Children proposed to be implemented in the 12th Five Year Plan period from 2013-14 to 2016-17 and beyond |
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Ministry of Tribal Affairs vide O.M. No. 19012/16/2012-Education dated 21/06/2013 (received on 24/6/2013) have sought the comments of the Commission on the Note for Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC)-Centrally Sponsored Umbrella Scheme for Education of ST Children proposed to be implemented in the 12th Five Year Plan period from 2013-14 to 2016-17 and beyond.

2. The Commission noted that the MTA has proposed to introduce the Umbrella Scheme for bridging the critical gaps in the existing efforts for education of ST children. For this purpose, the MTA has been implementing the following ten education related schemes for supporting creation of infrastructure, vocational training and providing scholarship/fellowship:

- (a) Establishment of Ashram Schools in TSP areas
- (b) Hostels for ST girls and boys
- (c) Vocational Training in Tribal areas
- (d) Strengthening education among ST girls in low literary districts
- (e) Grant-in-aid to voluntary organization working for the welfare of ST
- (f) Pre Matric Scholarship for needy ST students studying in classes XI & X
- (g) Post Matric Scholarships to the students belonging to ST for studies in India
- (h) Upgradation of Merit of ST students
- (i) Top Class Education for ST students
- (j) Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for SF students
- (k) National Overseas Scholarships for ST candidates

3. The Commission noted that the current proposal is for merger of the existing schemes under an Umbrella Scheme except the scheme for grant-in-aid to voluntary organizations working for the welfare of ST, Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship for ST students

and the scheme of National Overseas Scholarships for ST candidates. The merger and reorientation of the existing schemes is expected to expand the scope, and flexibility of interventions that are presently available under these individual stand-alone schemes formulated at different points of time. This will facilitate the State/UTs to choose what they really need from the items available under the Umbrella Scheme. This will also enable the Ministry to implement the DBT Scheme as advised by the Planning Commission.

4. The Commission observed that the basic problem of tribal schools is similar to other govt. rural schools but problems and outcomes are only accentuated in terms of teachers, teaching quality, students' capacity and confidence, students' self-assessment of weak areas and growth. The integration does not solve any of these problems in any manner but constitutes a wish list where outcomes are unknown. Technologies, education/subject/chapter modules, laboratory demos and greater CCE with individualized attention is necessary in relation to education of tribals. As schools becomes better, the enrolment and attainment rate will increase. The Commission further noted that the outlined objectives of the Umbrella Scheme are achievable through augmentation and strengthening of the existing schemes with efficiency in their delivery front, which are likely to result in optimal utilization of resources and economize the projected expenditure including cost of establishing the Project Monitoring Cell, both at national and state level under the proposed Umbrella Scheme. The Commission, therefore, desired that considering the observations of the Commission mentioned above, MTA needs to review the proposed Umbrella Scheme, and overhaul the existing schemes, addressing the core issues/deficient areas on delivery front resulting in lack of educational development amongst Scheduled Tribes.
