

F.No. R-22033/3/2021-DD-II/V
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

5th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antodaya Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-111003

Dated: 24th June, 2024

To,
All NGOs/Special Schools receiving GIA under DDRS (as per list)

Subject: To provide Right to Education (RTE) entitlements to Children with Special Needs (CwSN) under the Inclusive Education component of Samagra Shiksha Scheme and PM POSHAN.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to refer to the D.O. letter of Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education (copy enclosed) dated 7th June, 2024 regarding the above mentioned subject which is self-explanatory.

2. In view of the above, it is requested to ensure that as per RTE entitlements, such as free uniforms, free textbooks, interventions under the Inclusive Education component of Samagra Shiksha Scheme and nutritional support to children from pre primary to Class VIII under PM POSHAN be provided to the Children with Special Needs enrolled in your Special Schools.

Yours faithfully,

(Encl. As above)



(Ram Charan Meena)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tele: 011-24360316

संजय कुमार, मा.प्र.से.
सचिव

Sanjay Kumar, IAS
Secretary



भारत सरकार
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग
Government of India
Ministry of Education

Department of School Education & Literacy
07th June, 2024

D.O No 5-8/2024-IS-18

Dear Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary,

As you are aware, the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates that all children between the ages of 6 and 14, including pre-primary years, have the right to free and compulsory education. Under the Centrally Sponsored Samagra Shiksha Scheme, the major interventions across all levels of school education also include RTE entitlements for which financial support is provided to States/UTs. These RTE entitlements comprise free uniforms, free textbooks, reimbursement towards expenditure incurred for 25% of admissions under Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act, special training for age-appropriate admission of out-of-school children (OoS) at the elementary level, etc.

2 The Inclusive Education (IE) component within the Samagra Shiksha program strives to guarantee fair access to high-quality education for Children with Special Needs (CwSN) by furnishing them with essential academic assistance and resources. This initiative offers financial assistance to CwSN through targeted interventions, including organizing identification and assessment camps, supplying aids, appliances, and assistive devices, facilitating transportation, providing scribe and escort allowance support, offering Braille books and large print books, granting stipends for girls with special needs, and providing teaching-learning materials. These efforts aim to effectively cater to their distinctive educational needs within mainstream schools.

3 In addition to the above, the Centrally Sponsored PM POSHAN scheme provides nutritional support to children from pre-primary to Class VIII of government and government-aided schools.

4 It may be noted that there is a need to ensure that RTE entitlements, IE interventions, and the provisions of PM POSHAN are equally accessible to all CwSN, regardless of the mode of education in which they are enrolled. This includes inclusive schools, home schooling of CwSN students enrolled in inclusive schools, special schools under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016.

5 In view of the above, I would like to request you that necessary measures be taken, including thorough identification drives and awareness campaigns, to ensure that all CwSN within the State/UT, studying in government/government-aided inclusive, home-based or special schools, are provided with RTE entitlements, such as free uniforms, free textbooks, interventions under the IE component of Samagra Shiksha Scheme, and PM POSHAN (if need be then in the form of dry ration or Direct Benefit Transfer).

Best wishes

Yours sincerely,

07/06/2024
(Sanjay Kumar)

To,

1. Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary (School Education), All States and UTs.
2. The Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries, (Social Welfare) of all States/UTs.

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