

9

CENTRAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO STATE GOVERNMENTS FOR SETTING UP OF NEW POLYTECHNICS IN UNSERVED & UNDERSERVED DISTRICTS UNDER THE SCHEME OF SUB-MISSION ON POLYTECHNICS UNDER COORDINATED ACTION FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Polytechnic Education – An Overview

Polytechnic education in our country constitutes an important segment of Technical Education and contributes significantly to the economic development. Aimed at creating a vast amount of technical manpower, the polytechnics have played a pivotal role in providing skilled manpower at various levels for organized, unorganized and Service Sectors. Generally, the polytechnics in the country have been offering three year diploma courses in conventional disciplines such as Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering. However, during the last two decades many polytechnics have started offering courses in emerging disciplines such as Electronics, Computer Science, Medical Lab technology, Hospital Engineering, Architectural Assistantship etc. In addition, many institutions are also offering specialized diploma programmes in areas such as Leather Technology, Sugar Technology, and Printing Technology etc. Many diploma programmes are also being offered suited to women such as in Garment Technology, Beauty Culture and Textile Design etc. Polytechnics are meant to provide skills after class X and the duration of diploma programmes is 3 years. Polytechnics are also offering post diploma and advanced diploma programmes of 1-2 year's duration in different specializations.

1.2 Importance of Polytechnic Education

The Mission's basic objective is to create a trained Skilled Manpower of atleast 500 million persons by 2020. To translate the mission objective into action, several new initiatives are to be taken by various key Ministries. New Schemes orienting to Skill Development are to be launched. The existing capacity for training manpower is to be expanded many fold. This will include opening of new Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and Polytechnics., new Vocational Schools and Skill Development Centers. Through this, it is to ensure that annually over 100 lakh students get vocational training, which is a four-fold increase from today's level. Towards this, the active help of the private sector is also planned in a big way so that they do not only assist in the training but also lend a hand in providing employment opportunities".

Technical Education is instrumental in making a remarkable contribution to economic growth of the Developing Countries by way of suitable manpower production according to the needs of the Industry, Society and the Global World as a whole. To produce contemporary skilled manpower & technocrats suited to the present era of science and technology is the need of the hour. Polytechnic education has therefore responded to the challenges of industrialization for self-reliance, as well as meeting international demands.

The aim of the polytechnic education is to create a pool of skill based manpower to support shop floor and field operations as a middle level link between technicians and engineers. The pass-outs of Diploma level Institutions in Engineering & Technology play an important role in managing shop-floor operations. It is further an established fact that small & medium Industry prefer to employ Diploma Holders because of their special skills in interpreting engineering, drawings, estimating, costing, billing, supervision, measurement, testing, repair & maintenance etc.

1.3 Slow and Uneven Growth of Polytechnic Education

During the last decade, our country has witnessed a tremendous increase in the number of Engineering Colleges providing technical manpower at Degree level. However, the growth of technical institutions at diploma level has not been proportionate to the degree in Engineering. Whereas, the expansion of Degree level institutions has been several fold, the Diploma institutions expansion has suffered a setback. At present, the student intake in degree level courses is around 8 lakh per annum as against 5 lakh in diploma level. The present ratio of degree to diploma holders is around 1.6:1, whereas ideally it should be 1:3. This is in view of more private initiatives for starting colleges as self financing institutions coming up in the degree level institutions compared to the diploma level institutions.

2.0 SETTING UP NEW POLYTECHNICS

In order to stimulate the growth of Polytechnics in the country and considering the follow up required in the present condition of not adequate initiatives coming from the State Government and the private bodies, the Central Government has decided to support the State Government for starting Polytechnics. Under this Scheme, through a one time financial assistance is to be provided to the State Governments for meeting the capital cost in establishment of new polytechnics in the districts which do not have any government / government aided polytechnic and in other educationally backward and underserved districts where it may not be easy to establish new polytechnics under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode or under private initiative.

Under this, 300 such polytechnics are to be set up by the State Governments/ Union Territories with assistance from Government of India limited to Rs.12.3 crore per polytechnic to meet the capital costs of establishing a polytechnic.

2.1 **Details of Financial Assistance for Setting up of New Polytechnics**

Under this scheme, atleast one polytechnic each is to be set up in such district identified as un-served or underserved, for which Central Government would provide the grant to meet the non-recurring costs as under :

i. Civil Works	= Rs 8.00 crore
ii. Equipment/Machinery/Library Books/ Furniture/Vehicle	= <u>Rs 4.30 crore</u>
Total (per Polytechnic)	= Rs12.30 crore

Whereas the State Government shall provide the land required as per AICTE Norms, free of cost, for setting up the Polytechnic, the State Government shall also meet any additional requirement of non-recurring expenditure over and above the ceilings of Rs. 12.30 crores. Further, it shall also be the responsibility of the State Government to bear all the recurring expenditure in running the polytechnic.

The State Government will identify the location for the proposed polytechnics under the Scheme in the selected districts. It is proposed that initially three need based diploma programmes with a total intake of 180 will be started in these Polytechnics after obtaining approval from AICTE. The programmes to be started will be decided by the concerned State Governments. However, it is suggested that state governments should introduce diploma programmes in new and emerging areas. Admissions in these polytechnics will be made by the respective State Governments along with other polytechnics of States as per admission procedure, criteria, norms and guidelines followed by them.

2.2 Terms & Conditions for Financial Assistance

The financial assistance will be provided to the state governments subject to the following terms and conditions: -

- a) A total of Rs. 12.30 crore per district per polytechnic will be released in instalments. Out of Rs. 12.30 crore, Rs. 8.00 crore will be spent on Civil Works and Rs. 4.30 crore will be spent on equipment, machinery, furniture, Transport and Learning Resource Materials. Any additional requirement of funds over and above the ceiling of Rs. 12.30 crore will be met by the State Government.
- b) The land along with the development charges as well as 100% recurring expenditure will be borne by the State Government;
- c) The State Government shall create the required posts for Teaching & Non-teaching as per AICTE norms;
- d) The sanctioned strength of the teachers in the polytechnics has to be filled up and in no case the vacancies should be allowed to exceed 5% of the sanctioned strength.
- e) The norms and guidelines of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to be followed in the establishment of polytechnic and also for teaching and non-teaching staff.
- f) Multi point entry & exist with credit based Semester system has to be introduced for teaching and examining the students in all the existing as well as new polytechnics.
- g) Regular up-gradation of Syllabi keeping in view the demands of industry and employability of the students be carried out.
- h) Evaluation/ feedback of teaching
- i) Provision of broadband connectivity.
- j) An undertaking to be given by the State Governments that there is no Government Polytechnic/Government aided Polytechnic in the District in which the new Polytechnic is proposed to be established and other such criteria as decided by the Central Government for deciding the location of the Polytechnic & they shall abide by the various conditions as in this Scheme;

- k) The admissions in these polytechnics shall be made by the respective State Governments along with the other polytechnics of the States as per admission procedure criteria, reservation norms and guidelines followed.
- l) At the end of each financial year, the State Government shall have the accounts in respect of grants received from the Government of India audited through the concerned AG and submit audited statement of accounts to the Ministry of Human Resource Development promptly along with the statement of physical achievements made during the year. The grants-in-aid in the subsequent years shall be released only on receipt of the audited statement of accounts along with the progress report of the physical achievements.
- m) The accounts of the grantee shall be open to inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under provision of CAG (DPC) Act 1971 and Internal Audit by the Principal Accounts Office of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Deptt. Of Higher Education, whenever the grantee is called upon to do so.
- n) The grants from the Central Government under the Scheme would be provided progressively and subject to satisfactory progress shown by the State Government, in expeditious implementation of the Scheme. In the event of the State Government not showing satisfactory progress in establishment of the Polytechnic(s) or violating any of the conditions, the Central Government reserves the right to revoke the grants provided.

3. SCHEME IMPLEMENTATION & MONITORING

3.1 Committees For Monitoring – State Level

For effective monitoring & implementation of the Scheme, each State will constitute a Committee to Oversee implementation on the grants sanctioned by MHRD and monitoring of the scheme.

The composition of Committee will be as follows: -

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| (1) | Secretary (Technical Education of the State) | Chairman |
| (2) | DTE of the concerned state | Member |
| (3) | Two experts to be nominated by MHRD | Member |
| (4) | Director/DEA(T), MHRD | Member |

3.2 Central Monitoring Committee

A Central Project Appraisal & monitoring Committee consisting of the following will be constituted to oversee the implementation of the project :-

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| i. JS, MHRD | Chairman |
| ii. Director(Fin), IFD, MHRD | Member |
| iii. Nominee of Planning Commission | Member |
| iv. Four Experts to be nominated by MHRD | Member |
| v. Director (T) /DEA (T) | Member Secretary |

4. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All proposals for consideration may be submitted to Deputy Educational Adviser(T), Room No. 424, C-Wing, Department of Higher Education, Ministry of HRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

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