

#### democratising access to higher education -

Workshop on the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme Sunday, 12 March 2023

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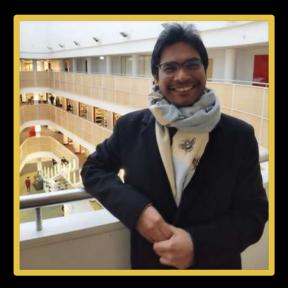
#### **Project EduAccess**

Access to higher education is a privilege most people from marginalised communities are systematically denied through cost, information and dispositional barriers.

**Project EduAccess** is a modest attempt to improve inclusivity in HEIs by removing these barriers for marginalized communities in South Asia.

We hope to achieve this by providing expert mentorship, support and guidance to learners in South Asia.

#### Meet your panelist



#### Purnachandra Naik

PhD English, Linguistics and Philosophy Nottingham Trent University Recipient 2017-18

# Overview

- The National Overseas Scholarship Scheme provides financial assistance to the selected candidates for pursuing Masters and Ph.D. courses abroad in Institutions/ Universities accredited by the Government/authorized body of that country in any field of study.
- 125 fresh awards, subject to availability of funds, are given under the Scheme.
  - Scheduled Castes 115
  - Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes 06
  - Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans 04
  - Total 125
    30% of the awards for each year shall be earmarked for women candidates.
- If for any specific year, successful candidates are not available to the extent prescribed for each of the above listed categories, the awards for that year will become open for candidates belonging to other categories.
- Bachelors level courses in any discipline are not covered under the Scheme.
- There is no interview for this scholarship scheme.

# Overview

- Under the scheme, the following financial assistance is provided:
  - 1. Tuition Fees
  - 2. Maintenance allowance (US Dollars 15,400/- annually and GBP 9,900/- annually in UK)
  - 3. Contingency of 1500 US Dollars or 1100 Great Britain Pounds
  - 4. Visa fees
  - Equipment allowance of 20 US Dollars for each or its equivalent in Indian Rupees along with materials like laptop, to be returned to the Indian Mission after completion of degree
     Medical insurance premium
  - 7. Air Passage by economy class
- All candidates after having availed of the award under the Scheme are required to return to India within 30 days from the date of completion of the course.
- In order to stay back in the country after the completion of the course/ degree, recipients are required obtain a letter from their potential employer to be submitted to the Indian Mission and permission from the Indian Embassy/ High Commission. The cost of living thereon has to be borne by the student.

#### Timeline

- Applications must be submitted by 31 March 2023 (midnight).
- In case the slots remain unfilled after the first round, the portal will be opened again for the second cycle from 1st of September for a period of 45 days in each selection year. Once all the 125 slots are filled, the portal will not be reopened during the year for submission of applications.
- A list of selected/waiting/rejected candidates will be uploaded on the online portal.
- While there is no fixed timeline for when you will hear back, the first list of shortlisted students along with a waitlist is released between May to July.
- Individual email/messages will also be sent to all registered applicants. Incomplete applications will be rejected summarily.

# Eligibility

- Only low-income students belonging to the scheduled castes, denotified nomadic and seminomadic tribes, landless agricultural labourers, and traditional artisans category are eligible to apply.
- The total family income from all sources shall not exceed Rs. 8 lakh per annum in the preceding financial year.
- Candidates must be below the age of 35 years as on 1st April of 2023 (i.e. the selection year).
- Candidates already staying or studying or having completed studies abroad by utilizing any other scholarship from State Government, other agency, or through own funds are not eligible to apply under NOS.
- At least 60% marks or equivalent grade in the qualifying examination. In case of PhD courses, the qualifying exam would be Master's degree and for Master's degree courses, bachelor's degree.

# Eligibility

- Not more than two children of the same parents/ guardians will be eligible for scholarship under the scheme and a self-certification will be required from the candidate to this effect.
- Only candidates having unconditional offer of admission to top 500 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities as per the latest available QS rankings for the year 2023 will be selected for grant of scholarship.
- The QS ranking of the University for its campus in any other country will be considered as per the QS ranking of the University Campus in that country. If there is no QS ranking available for its campus in other country then it will not be considered.
- Topics/ courses concerning Indian Culture/ heritage/ History/ Social studies on India based research topic shall not be covered under NOS. The final decision as to which Topic can be covered under such category will rest with Selection-cum-Screening Committee of NOS.

# **Application Process**

- Applicants are required to complete the online form available on the portal: <u>https://nosmsje.gov.in/(X(1)S(ha14id242c4n2yncf5xwpak0))/Default.aspx</u>
- New Applicants applying for the Scholarship for the first time need to register under "Student Register Form" under the login tab.
- Instruction Manual for filling the online application for the scholarship is on the website: <u>https://nosmsje.gov.in/(X(1)S(ha14id242c4n2yncf5xwpak0))/docs/Howtoapply.pdf</u>
- On the portal, applicants are required to provide details of the future prospects in India after completion of their proposed study abroad.
- After the form is submitted, no request for change of institution/ university shall be entertained.

### **Selection Procedure**

- The online applications of the eligible candidates shall be placed before the Selection-cum-Screening Committee for making their recommendations for selection and ranking of the eligible candidates for scholarship.
- On the basis of the recommendations received from the Committee, final list for selection/ rejection will be submitted for the approval of the Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment (SJ&E).
- Rejected candidates in the first round will have the option to apply in subsequent phases of selection.

# **Application Stage: Documents**

- 1. 10th Board Certificate
- 2. Caste Certificate
- 3. Photo
- 4. Scanned Signature
- 5. Current Address proof/ Permanent Address Proof, in case different from current address
- 6. Qualifying Degree/Provisional Certificate
- 7. Mark sheet of every semester of qualifying examination
- 8. Proof of CGPA /SGPA conversion formula into percentage (in case percentage marks not given)
- 9. Unconditional offer letter from foreign university

# **Application Stage: Documents**

10. Certificate / Affidavit in respect of GAP details after completion of Bachelor / Master Degree (if any) if period is more than six months.

- 11. Family Income Certificate issued by a Revenue Officer not below the rank of "Tehsildar"
- 12. Employer's NOC Certificate if applicant is employed.
- 13. Income Tax Return in case of person filing ITR.
- 14. ITR acceptance document.
- 15. Aadhar Card (ESSENTIAL)

16. The portal has certificate forms (Income certificate form, certificate for being Landless Agricultural Labourer, and certificate for being Traditional Artisan) for the candidates to use: <u>https://nosmsje.gov.in/(X(1)S(ha14id242c4n2yncf5xwpak0))/forms.aspx</u>

#### **Post Selection: Documents**

- In case of selection of the candidate, the Ministry issues Provisional Award Letter under the scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for SC etc.
- The selected candidates are required to submit following documents to confirm their award:
  - 1. Attestation form
  - 2. Self Declaration/Undertaking Regarding Total Annual Family Income
  - 3. Self Declaration Regarding Any Pending Case/Non-Conviction of Offense
  - 4. Copy of Passport

### **Post Verification: Documents**

After verification of all original documents in this Ministry and approval of Financial Department (IFD) the awardee will be issued confirmation of award letter and is required to submit following:

- 1. Two Bonds on at least Rs.100/- non-judicial stamp paper, complete in all respects, executed before a Notary Public for two sureties, as per the conditions in the scholarship regulations.
- 1. Solvency certificates for both sureties.
- 1. Health certificate.
- 1. Two copies of your Passport and VISA.
- 1. An undertaking/declaration on Non-judicial Stamp paper stating that awardee has not acquired the qualification for which he/she has been selected and has not obtained any other scholarship.
- 1. The date on which awardee desires to undertake the Air journey for joining the foreign University.
- 1. Selected Candidates are requested to visit this ministry personally on any working days by taking prior permission/ appointment with all documents submitted along with copies of documents stated above.
- 1. They are also requested to provide PDF of all aforesaid documents via email also.

## **Indian Mission**

- Indian Mission abroad makes payments of tuition fees/ maintenance allowance/ other allowances to the students studying in their jurisdiction as per the existing arrangements and sanction orders.
- The Indian Missions abroad obtains bi-annual progress reports from the University/ Institution where the awardee is pursuing his/ her studies for which the award was given under the Scheme.
- The payment of Maintenance Allowance is linked with furnishing of progress report. For first semester, the maintenance allowance may be paid to the scholarship awardee in the first instance as an advance in two installments: first after three months and second after another three months. Thereafter, the maintenance allowance for the next semester may be paid quarterly only after receipt of the satisfactory progress report of the awardee.

## **Stay Connected**

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#### Other ways to get in touch



