

File No. Z-16025/04/2021-CL

भारत सरकार/Government of India

श्रम एवं रोज़गार मंत्रालय / Ministry of Labour and Employment

(Child Labour Section)

Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg
New Delhi, the 14th March, 2022

To

Secretary, Labour of the States & UTs
(As per list of States attached)

Subject: Continuation of National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme beyond 31.3.2021.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to say that the National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme, a central sector scheme, had approval for its continuation up to 31.03.2020, and given an extension up to 31.03.2021, has been decided to be subsumed under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, of Ministry of Education.

2. Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education is implementing Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through a single State Implementation Society (SIS) at the State/UT level. The major objectives of the Scheme are provision of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students; bridging social and gender gaps in school education; ensuring equity and inclusion at all levels of school education; ensuring minimum standards in schooling provisions; promoting vocationalisation of education; etc. Under the scheme, Special Training Centre (STCs) are also operated in each district wherein bridge education is provided to 'out of school' children. In fact, there is hostel facility under SSA and because of this, the retention rate of children may increase in schools, as many children engaged in Child Labour belong to migrant families having no permanent home.

2.1 As per the scheme guidelines of NCLP Scheme, NCLP Special Training Centre were to be operational only in those districts where no Special Training Centre (s) under SSA are operational in that area. Further, the NCLP scheme guidelines also envisages the convergence with the annual survey of 'out of school' children under SSA as it would help to reduce duplication of efforts at the District and State level. In view of this, it has been decided that:

- The children enrolled at the STCs of NCLP Scheme as on 31.03.2021 be mainstreamed in accordance with NCLP guidelines.
- If any child has been enrolled after 31.03.2021 in any STC functional under NCLP, he/she be mainstreamed or shifted to STCs functional under SSA.
- After mainstreaming of the children enrolled in the STCs under NCLP scheme as per NCLP guidelines, the NCLP STC will cease to be operational.
- The State Government may continue to identify and rescue the child labour, as mandated in Child Labour & Adolescents (Prohibition & Regulations) Act, 1986. The children rescued / identified as child labour after completing the necessary formalities, be mainstreamed through SSA either directly to schools or through Special Training Centre, operated in the district under SSA Scheme.

3. In view of the above, it is requested to kindly bring the above to the notice of the concerned District Magistrates/District Collectors/Deputy Commissioners. They may also be requested to furnish the requisite documents for release of pending grants (if any) under NCLP scheme latest by **31st March 2022**. If no documents are received by 31.03.2022, it will be presumed that the concerned District Project Society has no pending liability. Likewise, all the District Project Societies may also be requested to complete the requisite uploading of data bank details etc. on PENCiL portal of the enrolled children by **31.03.2022** to facilitate this Ministry to process for release of due pending Stipend (if any) to eligible children in accordance with the NCLP guidelines. It may be noted that non-updation of child related details on PENCiL Portal may also have an impact on the release of pending grants (if any).

This issue with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

Ravi Kumar
14/3/22

(Ravi Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:-

i.

- i. The Chairperson -cum- DM / DC, NCLP District Project Societies (As per list attached)
- ii. Department of Expenditure (PF.II Division), North Block, New Delhi.