

*F. No. S-11012/01/2019-BL
Government of India
Ministry of Labour & Employment

Jaisalmer House, 26 Mansingh Road,
New Delhi, dated 27 February, 2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer-2021.

The undersigned is directed to convey the approval of the Competent Authority for implementation of Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer-2021 by the State Governments/UT Administrations through their District Magistrates/Collectors/Sub-Divisional Magistrates. The Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer 2016 was last revised in May, 2016. With approval of the Competent Authority, certain modifications had also been made in the Scheme on 23.06.2017. For the purpose of eradication of Bonded Labour System more proficiently, an evaluation of the performance of the Scheme has been undertaken by the Ministry. On the basis of evaluation of the Scheme and consultations with Stakeholders, a draft scheme was prepared by the Ministry of Labour & Employment and circulated to all State/UT Governments, NHRC, and various concerned Ministries of Government. Based on the suggestions and inputs received from all quarters including Niti Ayog and other concerned Social Partners, the competent authority has approved the revamped Scheme for the financial year 2021-22 to 2025-26. The revamped scheme will be implemented w.e.f. 27.01.2022. Copy of the revamped Scheme is enclosed at Annexure.

2. The revamped Scheme shall henceforth be known as Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer - 2021.

Encl: As above.


(M. Arun Rasith)
Deputy Director

To

1. The Chief Secretary/Additional Chief Secretary (Labour)/ Principal Secretary (Labour)/Secretary (Labour)/ Labour Commissioners of all State Governments/ Union Territory
2. District Magistrate/Collector (All Districts)

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Department of Expenditure
2. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment,
3. Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development,
4. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs,
5. Secretary General, National Human Rights Commission
6. AS&FA, Ministry of Labour & Employment
7. Senior PPS to all the Bureau Heads, Ministry of Labour & Employment
8. All Sections, Ministry of Labour & Employment
9. NIC, Ministry of Labour and Employment for uploading the scheme on the website of the Ministry.

Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer - 2021

1. REVISED SCHEME AND GUIDELINES

- i. The revised Scheme shall be a Central Sector Scheme and shall come into effect from 27.01.2022. The State Governments shall not be required to pay any matching contribution for the purpose of cash rehabilitation assistance.
- ii. The rehabilitation assistance shall be Rs. One lakh per adult male beneficiary. Beneficiary shall have the option to either deposit it in an annuity scheme or receive cash grant. The District Administration will assess the cash requirement of the beneficiary and exercise its best judgement in the matter and put the money under annuity scheme with the consent of the said adult male.
- iii. For special category beneficiaries such as children including orphans or those rescued from organized and forced begging rings or other forms of forced child labour, and women, the amount of rehabilitation assistance shall be Rs. Two lakhs out of which at least Rs. 1.25 lakh (Rs. One Lakh Twenty Five Thousand) shall be deposited in an annuity scheme in the name of each beneficiary and the balance amount shall be transferred to the beneficiary account through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- iv. In cases of bonded or forced labour involving extreme cases of deprivation or marginalization such as trans-genders, or women or children rescued from ostensible sexual exploitation such as brothels, massage parlours, placement agencies etc., or trafficking, or in cases of differently abled persons, or in situations where the District Magistrate deems fit, the rehabilitation assistance shall be Rs. Three lakhs, out of which at least Rs. Two lakhs shall be deposited in an annuity scheme in the name of each beneficiary and Rs. One lakh shall be transferred to the beneficiary account through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).
- v. In cases where, on the conclusion of the summary trial, the District Magistrate(DM)/Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) concludes that the alleged bonded labourer is, in fact, not in a condition of bondage, but requires socio-economic assistance, the DM/SDM, may provide state assistance under any other scheme administered by them.
- vi. In cases where, the DM/SDM find that immediate assistance is necessary for care and protection of the rescued persons during the pendency of the summary trial, such assistance including fooding, lodging, medical assistance, legal aid, provisions for victim's or witness' protection, etc., shall be provided under any other law or scheme forthwith, notwithstanding the entitlements prescribed under this scheme.
- vii. A Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Fund shall be created at the District level by each State with a permanent corpus of at least Rs. Ten lakhs at the disposal of the District Magistrate which would be renewable. This fund will be utilised for extending immediate financial assistance to the released bonded labourers. The entire penalties recovered from the perpetrators of the bonded labour upon conviction, may be deposited in the corpus.
- viii. Immediate financial assistance upto Rs. 30,000/- (Rs. Thirty Thousand) shall be provided by the District Administration to the rescued person out of the District Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Fund at the disposal of the District Magistrate. Where the DM is satisfied that a particular rescued person requires more than Rs.30,000/- (Rs. Thirty Thousand) he/she may disburse such higher amount as deemed fit, but limited to the maximum entitlement prescribed under this

scheme. Any such advance amount shall be deducted from the Central rehabilitation assistance amount.

- ix. State Governments/UTs shall be required to concentrate their efforts on the following activities:
 - a. The District Administration in a convergence approach shall undertake measures for providing safe and secure environment for the capacity building of child bonded labourers in coordination with all relevant Government departments. Accordingly, facilities for, ensuring their proper education, psycho social counseling, short stay home till education upto class 12th, skill development shall be an integral component of the rehabilitation package.
 - b. For addressing the special needs of female freed bonded labourers, State Government shall also provide financial and other assistance for marriage, apart from other capacity building measures mentioned at sub para (a).
 - c. For addressing the needs of the disabled persons, special care should be made available by the State as per national policy for disabled people apart from other capacity building measures mentioned at sub para (a) and (b).
 - d. For adult bonded labour who do not come under any of the above categories, employable skill development training shall be a compulsory element of rehabilitation.
- x. The benefits prescribed hereinbefore shall be, in addition to, other cash or non-cash benefits which a beneficiary under this scheme is entitled to, by or under any other scheme or law applicable for the time being in force.
- xi. A State/UT Government may conduct survey of bonded labourers once in every three years per sensitive district and the amount of assistance for survey shall be Rs. 4.50 lakh (Rs. Four Lakh Fifty Thousand) per district. This amount may be utilised to finance the NGO efforts for identification of bonded labour as per State/UT Government norms. The Central Government will give 50% of amount required for conducting survey in advance and will reimburse the remaining amount upon satisfactory performance in each identified project. The component of assistance shall be as per the following table:-

S.No.	Cost involved in survey	Funds Permissible
1.	Cost of printing of questionnaire (average 2000 questionnaires @ Rs. 5 each)	Rs. 10,000
2.	Costing of imparting training to investigators/field staff for collecting information (payment to 10 investigator/field staff @ Rs. 500/- per day to each for 5 days (Rs. 5000 x 5)	Rs. 25,000
3.	Cost of collecting primary data from field (payment to 10 investigators/field staff @ Rs. 500/- per day to each for 2 months (Rs. 5000 x 60 days)	Rs. 3,00,000
4.	Cost of editing, tabulation and analysis of primary data (payment to 2 Research Assistant @ Rs. 20,000/- per month to each for 2 months (Rs. 40,000 x 2 months)	Rs. 80,000
5.	Cost of computerization of data/information	Rs. 35,000
	Total	Rs. 4,50,000

- (xii) A State/UT may conduct awareness generation program for eradication of bonded labourer and the amount of assistance for awareness generation shall be reimbursed on case to case basis subject to maximum limit of Rs. Ten lakh per

State/UT per annum. The Central Government will give 50% of amount required for conducting awareness generation in advance and will reimburse the remaining amount upon satisfactory performance of the awareness generation program, as per the following components:-

S.No.	Cost components	Funds Permissible
1.	Cost of campaigning and telecast of various audio visual inputs through AIR, Doordarshan, Song and Drama Division, Social Media Platform etc.	Rs. 7 lakh
2.	Campaigns through local newspapers	Rs. 1 lakh
3.	Cost of performance by folk cultural troupes including cost of travelling	Rs. 2 lakh
	Total	Rs. 10 lakh

(xiii) A State/UT may conduct up-to five evaluatory studies per year for eradication of bonded labourer and the amount of assistance for each evaluatory study shall be Rs. 1.5 lakh (One Lakh Fifty Thousand). The Central Government will give 50% of amount required for conducting evaluatory study in advance and will reimburse the remaining amount upon satisfactory performance as per the following components:

S.No.	Cost involved in survey	Funds Permissible
1.	Formulation and printing of questionnaire for collecting information from various Departments & who are providing grants/loans for the purpose of effective rehabilitation of bonded labourers including cost of mailing of questionnaire	Rs. 10,000
2.	Analysis of data by 2 Research Assistants-cum-computer operators (payment @ Rs. 15,000/- per month for 2 months)(30,000 X 2 months)	Rs. 60,000
3.	Writing of reports by 1 Research Officer (payment @ Rs. 30,000/- per month for 2 months) (30,000 x 2 months)	Rs. 60,000
4.	Printing and binding of the report (20 original copies)	Rs. 10,000
5.	Misc. expenses including travelling expenses	Rs. 10,000
	Total	Rs. 1,50,000

2. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSAL TO THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The District Magistrate/Administration will send the proposal for the financial demand to the State's concerned Ministry/Department dealing with the Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Scheme. Upon receipt of proposal the concerned State Ministry/Department will scrutinize all documents and submit proposal to the Central Government i.e. Ministry of Labour and Employment.

2.2 Each proposal for the immediate cash assistance and rehabilitation assistance will be sent by the State/UT Government with the following details:-

(i) For the immediate financial Assistance (i.e. upto Rs. 30,000/-) duly filled release Certificate of each rescued bonded labour (Annexure –A).

(ii) For Rehabilitation Assistance (i.e. Rs. One lakh, Two lakhs, Three lakhs as the case may be):-

- a. Duly filled Release Certificate of the each rescued Bonded Labour (Annexure-A).
- b. Details of each rescued Bonded Labour in prescribed proforma as per Annexure –B.
- c. Consolidated details of bonded labourer(s) for release of Rehabilitation Assistance (Annexure-C).

2.3 (a) For release of Central Assistance for conducting survey of bonded labourers proposal will be sent by the State/UT Government in the prescribed proforma as per Annexure - D.

(b) For release of Central Assistance for awareness generation program proposal will be sent by the State/UT Government in the prescribed proforma as per Annexure - E.

(c) For release of Central Assistance for evaluatory studies the proposal will be sent by the State/UT Government in the prescribed proforma as per Annexure – F.

2.4 In cases where the Summary Trial under Sec 21 of the Act has not been concluded as per Rules, but the DM/SDM has arrived at a prima facie finding and proof of bondage, then the proposal for cash assistance shall not be stopped for want of details of conviction. However, final disbursement of cash assistance shall be made upon proof of bondage and other legal consequences as per judicial process.

3. Release of Funds

3.1 As per modalities of release of funds approved by the Ministry of Finance, admissible reimbursement under the revised scheme, fund will be released by the Ministry of Labour and Employment directly to the State/UT Government. The fund will be transferred by the State/UT Government to the concerned District Magistrate/Collector for the purpose of the Bonded Labourer Rehabilitation Scheme.

4. Monitoring

4.1 The monitoring of the BLR scheme shall be carried out by the Central Monitoring Committee, prescribed under the NCLP scheme, but with JS/DG (LW) as member-convenor for the purpose of BLR Scheme.

4.2 At the State level, the monitoring machinery for National Child Labour Project (NCLP) Scheme shall also be responsible for monitoring of the revised BLR Scheme.

Annexure -A

Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer - 2021

Proforma for Release Certificate **BL Case NO.**

(Order of the JMFC/JMSC under Section 1 2 of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976)

A Colour passport size signed photograph of the bonded labour released should be pasted in this box

1. Name
2. Caste Category(SC/ST/OBC)
3. Father/Mother's Name
4. Age
5. Male/Female/trans-gender
6. Address of Bonded Labour
7. Aadhaar Card No. of Bonded Labour (if available)
8. Contact details of Bonded Labour (Mobile No., if available)
9. Address where bonded labour is Identified/rescued
10. Name of the Captor/Bonder
11. Aadhaar Card no. of Captor/Bonder
12. Address of Captor/Bonder

Given under my hand and seal on date _____

Signature
Name of the District Magistrate/Officer
authorized by District Authority
District:-
State:
Seal

Annexure-B

Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer -2021
Details of Bonded Labour for Release of Rehabilitation Assistance

I. IDENTIFICATION PARTICULARS

- a. Name :-
b. Father/Mother/Husband Name :-
c. Gender :-
d. Caste Category(SC/ST/OBC) :-
e. Qualification :-
f. Whether physically disabled :-
g. Address :-
h. Aadhaar card Number :-
i. Contract details(Mobile No., if available) :-
j. Whether special/other category :-

(as specified at para 1 (iii) and 1 (iv) of this Scheme)

II. PARTICULARS OF FAMILY MEMBERS:

S.No.	Name	Relation to Respondent	Age	Gender	Qualification	Occupation	Remarks
1							
2							

III. PARTICULARS OF PRESENT OCCUPATION (After rescued)

- a. Occupation :-
b. Duration of the Occupation (month/Year) :-
c. Wages (per day/week/month) :-

IV. PARTICULARS OF ASSESTS [of the Bonded Labour]

- c. Land owned :-
d. Milch animals/bullocks/sheep/goat/poultry :-
e. Does he/she live in own House or rented :-

V. Quantum of punishment to the convict/accused :-

VI. The details of assistance provided by State Government/UT (Cash/Kind) :-

VERIFICATION

It is certified that the facts stated in the above questionnaire are true to the information provided by the rescued labourer which has been read over and explained to him in his mother tongue.

Date:-

Place:-

Signature
Name of the District Magistrate/
Officer authorized by District Authority
District:-
State:-
Seal

Annexure-C**Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer-2021****Consolidated details of Bonded Labour(s) for Release of Rehabilitation Assistance**

- I. Number of the labourers required to be rehabilitated:
(Release certificate to be attached for every rescued labour)
- II. Category wise break-up:-

S.No	Gender	Special Category	Number
1.	Male	Adult	
		Minor	
		Total	
2.	Female	Adult	
		Minor	
		Total	
3.	Special/Other Category as specified in para 5 (iii) and 5(iv)	Male	
		Female	
		Minor Boy(s)/Girls	
		Person with disability *	
		Trans-gender	
Total			

*"Person with disability" means a person suffering from not less than forty per cent of any disability as certified by a medical authority, medical authority is Hospital funded by Central or State Government. The medical certificate issued by medical authority should be provided with the proposal.

- III. Total amount of Central Assistance Required:

S.No	Category	Total Number	Prescribed limit as per the bonded labour scheme (Rs.in Lakh)	Total Amount
1	Adult Male member		One	
2	Adult Female/Minor boys and Girls		Two	
3	Special/Other category as specified at para 5(iii) and 4(iv) of this Scheme		Three	
Total				

- IV. Name of the District (s) where these bonded labourers (category wise) have been identified:

S.No.	Name of the District(s)	Name of the State	Number of bonded Labour		
			Identified	Released	Rehabilitated
1					
2					
3, 4...					
Total					

(Continued.....)

V. Whether any utilization certificate for Central Assistance released in the preceding years are pending:- Yes/No

If yes indicate the details of pending utilization certificates:

Name of the State/UT						
Sl. No.	Component of Central Assistance received	Name of the District (s)	Year in which Funds Released	Amount of Central Assistance (Rs.)	Amount for which Utilization certificates submitted (Rs.)	Reasons for non-submission of utilization certificates
1						
2, 3...						
Total						

Signature
Name of the District Magistrate/
Officer authorized by District Authority
District:-
State:
Seal

Annexure-D

Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer – 2021 Proforma for Release of Central Assistance for Conducting Survey of Bonded Labourers

- i. Name of District (s) where survey will be conducted :-
- ii. Duration of Survey with timelines for its completion :-
- iii. Whether any survey was conducted in the past, in the district(s) :-
 - a. If yes indicate year and month of the survey :-
 - b. If no, the reasons :-
- iv. Name of the agency(ies) which conducted survey in the past :-
- v. Name of the agency(ies) which will be conducting survey :-
- vi. Item wise breakup of the cost of the proposed survey per sensitive district :-

S.No.	Item	Cost involved
1.	Cost of printing of questionnaire (average 2000 questionnaires @ Rs. 5 each = Rs. 10,000)	
2.	Costing of imparting training to investigators/field staff for collecting information (payment to 10 investigator/field staff @ Rs. 500/- per day to each for 5 days (Rs. 5000 x 5 = Rs. 25000)	
3.	Cost of collecting primary data from filed (payment to 10 investigators/field staff @ Rs. 500/- per day to each for 2 months (Rs. 5000 x 60 days = Rs. 3,00,000)	
4.	Cost of editing, tabulation and analysis of primary data (payment to 2 Research Assistant @ Rs. 20,000/- per month to each for 2 months (Rs. 40,000 x 2 months = Rs. 80,000)	
5.	Cost of computerization of data/information (Rs. 35,000)	
	Total	

- vii. Whether previous survey, if conducted any, have been done within one year of releasing Central assistance: (Y/N)
- viii. If yes, then details of findings, recommendations to be provided
- ix. Whether reports of the survey conducted in the past have been sent to Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India
 - a. If yes, details thereof
 - b. If no, reasons thereof
- x. Whether any utilization certificate for Central Assistance released in the preceding years are pending :- Yes/No.
 - a. If yes indicate the details of pending utilization certificates :

Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer - 2021

Proforma for Release of Central Assistance for Awareness Generation Program:

- i. List of activities proposed to be undertaken for awareness generation program:-
- ii. Name of the agencies which will undertake awareness generation activities. Whether it is Government or Private:
- iii. Item-wise break-up of the cost involving in awareness generation activities.

S.No.	Item	Cost involved
1.	Cost of campaigning and telecast of various audio visual inputs through AIR, Doordarshan, Song and Drama Division, etc.(max. fund permissible is Rs. 7 Lakh)	
2.	Campaigns through local newspapers (max. fund permissible is Rs. 1 Lakh)	
3.	Cost of performance by folk cultural troupes including cost of travelling (max. fund permissible is Rs. 2 lakh)	
	Total	

- iv. Whether awareness generation activities have been done within 6 months of releasing Central assistance in preceding years. (Y/N).
- v. Whether reports of the awareness generation activities conducted in the past have been sent to Ministry of Labour & Employment, Government of India: (Y/N)
 - a. If yes, details thereof
 - b. If no, reasons thereof
- vi. Whether any utilization certificate for Central Assistance released in the preceding years are pending:- (Y/N)
 - (a) If yes indicate the details of pending utilization certificates:

Annexure-F

Central Sector Scheme for Rehabilitation of Bonded Labourer - 2021

Proforma for Release of Central Assistance for Evaluatory Studies:

1. List of activities proposed to be undertaken for Evaluatory Studies;
2. Name of the agencies which will undertake the evaluation. Whether it is Government or Private:
3. Item-wise break-up of the cost involving in evaluatory studies:

S.No.	Item	Cost involved
1.	Formulation and printing of questionnaire for collecting information from various Departments & who are providing grants/ loans for the purpose of effective rehabilitation of bonded labourers including cost of mailing of questionnaire (Rs.10,000)	
2.	Analysis of data by 2 Research Assistants-cum- Computer operator (payment @ Rs.15,000/- per month for 2 months) (30,000 x 2 months= Rs.60 000)	
3.	Writing of reports by one Research Officer (payment @ Rs. 30,000/- per month for 2 months) (30,000 x 2 months= Rs.60,000)	
4.	Printing and binding of the report (20 original copies) (Rs.10,000)	
5.	Misc. expenses including travelling expenses (Rs 10,000)	
	Total	