

(1)

BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT, GORKHALAND TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATION, DARJEELING.

As per Notification no. 3219-BCW/5E-42/12 dated 12/09/2012 and No. 4117-BCW/5E-42/12 dated 30/09/2012 of the Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Kolkata the existing Offices of the District Welfare Officer, B.C.W., Darjeeling and Additional District Welfare Officer, B.C.W. Kalimpong and the Services of all Officers and Staff of the both Offices have been transferred on deputation to '**Gorkhaland Territorial Administration**' subject to the works relating to statutory function i.e., West Bengal Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Reservation of vacancies in services & posts) Act, 1976, Identification Act, 1994, Prevention of Atrocity Act, 1989 and Protection of Civil Right Act, 1995 and Rules framed thereto will be performed by the State Government Officers as before.

Apart from this, as per Notification SBCW-831 dated 27/09/2012 of the Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Kolkata, the existing District Branch Office of the West Bengal SC/ST Development & Finance Corporation located at Darjeeling and Services of all officers and staff including the deputation post of District Manager presently attached with aforesaid District Branch office have been placed at the disposal of G.T.A. on deputation.

ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP :- To implement various schemes for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, this department has the following four Offices under its control.

Sl.no.	Name	Name of the Office with Designation
1	Sri Anit Thapa	Executive Member, B.C.W. Deptt., G.T.A., Darjeeling.
2	Sri Topden Lama , WBCS (Exe)	Executive Director, B.C.W. Department, G.T.A., Darjeeling.
3	- Do - (Additional Charge)	District Welfare Officer, B.C.W. Deptt., G.T.A., Darjeeling
4	- Do - (Additional Charge)	Additional District Welfare Officer, B.C.W., G.T.A., Kalimpong.
5	Sri Puspak Roy, WBCS (Exe)	District Manager, West Bengal SC/ST Dev. & Finance Corporation, Darjeeling Branch.

Office wise staff position are as follows:-

i) Executive Director, B.C.W. Department, G.T.A., Darjeeling.

Sl. No.	Designation	Present position
1.	Executive Director	1
2.	Assistant Engineer	1
3.	S.A.E.	2
4.	U.D.C.	1
5.	L.D.C.	7
6.	Group 'D'	8
7.	Khalashi	1
8.	Care Taker	1
9.	Safai Karmachari	1

ii) a) District Welfare Officer, B.C.W. Deptt., G.T.A., Darjeeling.

Sl. No.	Designation	No. of post sanctioned	Vacant position	Remarks
1.	District Welfare Officer, Backward Classes Welfare, Darjeeling.	1	1	Sri Topden Lama, WBCS (Exe) is in Addl. Charge of DWO, BCW, GTA, Darjeeling.
2.	Sub-Assistant Engineer	1	1	
3.	Inspector, B.C.W. (Reservation Cell)	1	-	
4.	Inspector, B.C.W. (H.Q.)	1	-	
5.	Inspector, B.C.W. (Attached to S.D.O.)	2	1	
6.	Inspector, B.C.W. (Attached to Block) (One per Block)	5	3	
7.	Head Clerk	1	1	
7.	Upper Division Clerk	4	1	
8.	L.D.C.-cum-Typist	4	4	
9.	Social Worker	1	1	
10.	Driver	1	1	
11.	Chainman to S.A.E.	1	-	
12.	Group 'D'	3	-	
13.	Helper to Social Worker	1	1	

B) Staff position of T.C.P.C., Backward Classes Welfare Deptt., GTA, Darjeeling (closed)

Sl.No.	Designation	Post Sanctioned	Vacant position	Remarks
1.	Lady Instructor-in-Charge (Group –B)	1	1	After the retirement of Lady Instructor-in-Charge on 30.4.2008 the TCPC Centre is closed.
2.	Darwan-cum-Night Guard (Group- D)	1	-	His service is utilizing in the office of the D.W.O., B.C.W. Darjeeling

c) Pay-Band Staff, B.C.W., G.T.A., Darjeeling.

Sl. No.	Designation	Present Position	Remarks
1.	Executive Engineer-in-Charge	1	Additional Charge
2.	Sub-Assistant Engineer	2	One is in Addll.. Charge.
3.	L.D.C.	3	2 nos. of LDCs are working in B.D.O. Office, Kurseong.
4.	Driver	1	
5.	Group 'D'	5	1 no. of Gr. D working in B.D.O. Office, Kurseong.
6.	Safaiwala	1	

d) Central Hostels for ST Girls (60 bedded) at Kurseong.

Sl. No.	Designation	Sanctioned Post	Vacant Position	Remarks
1.	Superintendant , (Purely on contractual basis and the same will not be regularized in future by any means)	1	1	<i>Recruitment of staff is under process</i>
2.	Matron (- do -)	1	1	
3.	Cook (- do -)	1	1	
4.	Helper (- do -)	1	1	
5.	Darwan-cum-Night Guard (- do -)	1	1	
6.	Sweeper (Part time) (- do -)	1	1	

iii) a) Additional District Welfare Officer, B.C.W., G.T.A., Kalimpong.

Sl. No.	Designation	No. of post sanctioned	Vacant position	Remarks
1.	Additional District Welfare Officer,	1	1	Shri Topden Lama WBCS(Ex) is in the Addl, charge of A.D.W.O BCW GTA
2.	Inspector attached to S.D.O.	1	-	
3.	Inspector attached to Blocks	3	1	
4.	Sub- Assistant Engineer	1	1	
5.	Head Clerk	1	-	
6.	U.D.C.	1	1	
7.	L.D.C.	1	1	
8.	Social Worker	1	1	
9.	Chainman to S.A.E.	1	-	
10.	Group 'D'	2	1	Night Guard (Vacant Post)
11.	Helper to Social Worker	1	-	

iii) b) Central Hostel for S/T Boys (40 Bedded) at Kalimpong.

Sl. No.	Designation	Sanctioned Post	Vacant Position	Remarks
1.	Superintendant (Regular)	1	-	
2.	Care Taker (-- do --)	1	-	
3.	Cook	-	-	
4.	Helper to Cook	-	-	
5.	Darwan-cum-Night Guard	-	-	
6.	Sweeper	-	-	

iii) c) Central Hostel for S/T Girls (60 Bedded) at Kalimpong.

Sl. No.	Designation	Sanctioned Post	Vacant Position	Remarks
1.	Superintendent (Regular)	1	-	
2.	Matron	1	1	
3.	Cook	1	1	
4.	Helper to Cook	1	1	
5.	Night Guard-cum-Darwan	1	-	
6.	Sweeper	-	-	

iii) d) Pay-Band Staff, B.C.W., G.T.A., Kalimpong

Sl. No.	Designation	Present Position	Remarks
1.	Sub-Assistant Engineer	1	Additional Charge
2.	L.D.C.	5	
3.	Driver	1	
4.	Group 'D'	4	

iv) District Manager, WBSCSTDFC, G.T.A., Darjeeling Branch.

Sl. No.	Designation	No. of post sanctioned	Vacant position	Remarks
1.	District Manager	1	-	Sri Puspak Roy, WBCS (Exe)
2.	Additional District Manager	2	-	
3.	Field Officer	4	-	
4.	Accountant	1	-	
5.	Assistant	1	-	
6.	Peon	3	-	1 (One) Casual.
7.	Data Operator	1	-	Sanctioned by H.O. (Fixed Salary)
8.	Night Guard	1		Sanctioned by H.O.

SC/ST/ OBC Communities in Hill Areas under G.T.A.in the district of Darjeeling are :-

i) Scheduled Castes : So far, the Government of West Bengal has recognized 59 Scheduled Castes in the state. Out of which, the main scheduled castes in the hill areas are **i) Kami (Nepali), ii) Damai (Nepali), iii) Sarki Nepali** in addition to this **Hari, Mehtar, Mehtor, Balmiki and Dhobi** are also found less in number.

ii) Scheduled Tribes : Out of 40 recognised Scheduled Tribes in the State by the Government of West Bengal, the main Scheduled Tribes in the hill areas are : **i) Lepcha , ii) Bhutia, iii) Sherpa, iv) Dukpa, v) Yolmo (Kagatay), vi) Limbu (Subba) and vii) Tamang.**

iii) **Hostel Charges** : SC/ST Students of secondary stages (from Class V to VIII) residing in hostels are given grants @ Rs. 750/- per month for 10 (ten) months in a year on account of hostel charges with effect from 01.04.2002. In the case of SC students, the hostellers coming from families living below the poverty line are considered eligible for the grants. In case of ST, there is no such income limit for the student. The family income is Rs. 36,000/- per annum.

iv) **Other Compulsory Charges** : The scheme is meant for ST students only. Other Compulsory Charges will be @ Rs. 35/- per annum. The family income is Rs. 36,000/-per annum.

v) **Special Financial Assistance to SC/ST Meritorious Students** : This scholarship is meant for the students reading in Class IX to XII only. Under this scheme, the beneficiaries will be selected from amongst the students securing 60% marks in case of SC and 40% in case of ST minimum in the last annual examination of whose parents/guardians' annual income does not exceed Rs. 36,000/-. The quotas for G.T.A. area are kept ST -12 and SC – 4 (Total SC/ST – 16). The grant will be @ Rs. 4,800/- per student per annum in the following heads ;-

- a) For Special Coaching - Rs. 250/- per student per month for 12 months.
b) Maintenance Assistance - Rs. 150/- per student per month for 12 months.

Total Rs. 400/- (X) 12 Months = Rs. 4,800/-

vi) **Additional Financial Assistance to SC/ST Girl students reading in class V to X** : For G.T.A area, the total number of quota is 48 meritorious SC/ST girl students (i.e., SC – 12 and ST – 36) reading in classes V to X will be selected and given the Additional Financial Assurances in the following manner, whose parents / guardians' income does not exceed Rs. 60,920/- per annum.

- Current Rates :**
- a) Class V & VI - Rs. 100/- per month for 12 months.
b) Class VII & VIII - Rs. 125/- per month for 12 months
c) Class IX & X - Rs. 150/- per month for 12 months.

vii) **Unclean Occupation** : The beneficiaries of the scheme are the students of whose parents and Flyers, Tanners, Scavengers or engaged in similar profession. The above scheme is further extended to the children / wards of those engaged in waste picking / collecting. The day scholarship and hosteller of this category also get grants. The students are to obtain application forms for the scholarships from the respective Municipalities / Panchayat Office. The rate of the Scholarship is noted below :-

Hosteller
Class III to X @ Rs. 700/- p.m. for 10 months.
Ad – hoc grant = Rs. 1000/- per annum

Dayscholar
Class I to X @ Rs. 110/- p.m. for 10 months.
Ad – hoc grant = Rs.750/- per annum.

There is no family income ceiling.

B) **Pre- Matric Scholarship to O.B.C. Students:** The Government of West Bengal in the Department of B.C.W. with the accord of administrative approval of Governor as communicated vide order no.1052-BCW/ES-94/2002 dated 25/03/2003 has extended implementation of the centrally sponsored scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarships to O.B.C. during the year 2002-2003. The rate of Scholarships payable for 10 months as per Govt. Order are as follows :-

Hosteller
(GOI & State Rate)
III to VIII – Rs. 200/- p.m.
IX & X - Rs. 250/- p.m.

Day Scholar
(State Rate)
V to X Rs. 40/- p.m.

Day Scholar
(GOI Rate)
I to V – Rs. 25/- p.m.
VI to VIII - Rs. 40/- p.m.
IX & X - Rs. 50/- p.m.

Adhoc Grant (GOI) Rs. 500/- p.a. for Hosteller and D.S..

(7)

c) Online Pre-Matric Scholarship to SC/ST Students (for CSS Class IX & X) and Post Matric Scholarship to SC/ST/OBC students :-

From the year 2013, the Backward Classes Welfare Department, Government of West Bengal has introduced online application for Pre-Matric Scholarship to SC/ST Students (for Class IX & X) and Post Matric Scholarship to SC/ST/OBC students. For which, the Backward Classes Welfare Department, Kolkata has developed a Portal known as "OASIS" (ONLINE APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP IN STUDIES). The eligible students have to fill-up and download the application form from website "oasis.gov.in". The duly filled up application form (hard copy) alongwith required documents should be submitted within the stipulated time in the Office of the District Welfare Officer, Backward Classes Welfare, G.T.A., Darjeeling and the Additional District Welfare Officer, Backward Classes Welfare, G.T.A., Kalimpong for Municipality Areas and in the concerned Block Development Offices for Block Areas as per the location of the Institution.

i) Rate of Scholarships for Pre-Matric to SC/ST Students (for CSS Class IX & X) :

<u>Hosteller</u>		<u>Dayscholar</u>
<u>G.O.I. Rate</u> Rs. 350/- p.m.	<u>State Rate</u> Rs. 750/- p.m.	Rs. 150/- p.m.
<u>Adhoc Grant</u> Rs. 1000/- p.a.	Rs. 1000/- p.a.	Rs. 750/- p.a.

The ceiling of Family Income from all sources is Rs. 2,00,000/- per annum.

ii) Rate of Post-Matric Scholarships to SC/ST/OBC students : The rate of scholarship varies from course to course in according to guideline framed by the Govt. of India as well as Govt. of West Bengal in the BCW Deptt., maximum yearly Tution fees / Other fees for payment of Post – Matric scholarship to SC/ST/OBC students would be payable in the following manner :-

Sl.No.	Course Name	Yearly maximum Tution Fees (Rs)	Yearly maximum Other Fees (Rs)
1	XI	Nil	200
2	XII	Nil	200
3	B.A. (General)	600	500
4	B.A. (Hons)	900	900
5	B.Sc. (General)	1020	500
6	B.Sc. (Hons)	1320	600
7	B.Com. (General)	720	300
8	B.Com. (Hons)	1020	300
9	M.A./ M.Com.	1500	500
10	M.Sc.	1920	750
11	B.Pharmacy	2400	1000
12	M. Pharmacy	4800	1000
13	BBA / BCA	1320	500
14	M.B.A/M.C.A	4800	1000
15	B.Ed/B.P.Ed	1200	500
16	M.Ed/M.P.Ed	1500	500
17	L.L.B.	1200	600
18	Diploma Eng.	600	500
19	I.T.I.	360	60
20	P.T.T.I.	960	500

(8)

21	B.E.in.I.T./B.Tech.I.T.	24000	500
22	B.E.in Com.Sc./Elec./Comm.	12000	500
23	B.E./B.Tech.	6000	500
24	M.E./M.Tech.	18000	500
25	M.B.B.S.	9000	1000
26	B.Sc. (Opera/Criti.Care etc.)	6000	500
27	B.H.M.S./B.A.M.S.	6600	1000
28	B.D.S.	7800	1000
29	B.Sc. (Agri. Hons./M.Sc.(Agri.)	1500	500
30	B.F.Sc.	500	600
31	B.Sc./M.Sc. Nursing	0	500
32	G.N.M. Nursing	0	300
33	B.Sc. in Hotel Management	6660	1000
34	B.Lib./M.Lib.	900	500
35	M.Phill.	900	500
36	Ph.D.	3000	1000
37	B.V.Sc.	1000	600
38	M.V.Sc.	1320	600
39	B.F.A.	900	500
40	M.F.A.	1500	600
41	D.M.L.T.	6600	1000
42	L.L.M.	2400	600
43	B.Tech. Farma	4800	1000
44	CA / CS / ICFA / ICWAI	1200	1000
45	P.G (NBU) / PGDTM / PGDRDEE	6000	nil
46	Mass Com.	2100	710
47	Micro Bio	6000	1310

The above rates of scholarship B.A. (Hons) i.e., Tution fees / Other fees will automatically be entered through the " OASIS " online system itself including maintenance charges and Hostel Charges (only for hostellers residing in Government Hostels against receipt issued by the hostels).

The family income limits for SC/ST students and OBC students are noted below :-

- a) **For SC/ST Students** : The ceiling of annual family income from all sources **does not exceed Rs. 2,50,000/-**
- b) **For OBC Students** : The ceiling of annual family income from all sources **does not exceed Rs.1,00,000/-**

2) **Monitor and Supervise SC/ST/OBC Certificates** : The Sub-Divisional Officer is the Competent Authority for issuance of Caste Certificate to the people belonging to SC/ST/OBC and the office of the District Welfare Officer, Backward Classes Welfare, G.T.A.,Darjeeling will monitor and supervise the same and submit monthly compiled report received from Sub-Divisional Officers of G.T.A. area on issuance of caste certificates to the Backward Classes Welfare Department, Kolkata.

3) Reservation Act 1976 : The State Government may appoint the District Magistrate of a district to be the District Commissioner for Reservation for the district. The District Commissioner for Reservation shall be responsible for ensuing reservation of vacancies in Services and Posts under the Act. The provision of the Act shall not apply in relation to any employment under the Central Government, in the WBHJS, any private employment, any employment in domestic service and in case of single post cadre.

As per the provision of the Act 22 % of the vacancies shall be reserved for SC, 6% for ST, 10% and 7% reserved for OBC Category "A" and "B" respectively. Reservation at this rate is to be maintain for direct recruitment as well as promotion. However, there is no provision for reservation in promotion in respect of OBCs.

To maintain the reservation 2 (two) rosters have been provided. One roster named 100 point roster is to be maintained for direct recruitment and another 50 point roster is to be maintain for promotion. To facilitate maintenance of "**Register of Appointment (ROA)**" a cut – off date on 27.03.1990 has been fixed. All the vacancies as on that date has to be listed in the ROA. All employers have to maintain separate registers called ROA for different categories of posts and also separately for direct recruitment and for promotion posts.

For getting the benefit of reservation, a candidate will have to produce a statutory caste certificate obtained from the competent authority and he/she can claim such benefit of reservation only from the date of obtaining that caste certificate. Benefit of reservation can be claimed by a reserved candidate only from his state of origin not from the state he/she may migrate.

Reservation of SC/ST/OBC in admission to Educational Institutions: The Government of West Bengal has also provided **reservation @ 22% for SC and 6% for ST** in case of admission to educational courses.

A separate merit list for SC and ST candidate has to be prepared. SC and ST candidate qualified for general merit list will not be counted for reserved quota in admission. Seats reserved for SC remaining unfilled by SC candidate may be filled by ST candidate and vice versa.

West Bengal Commission for Backward Classes has been set up in 1993. Covering all reservation **quotas 10% and 7% for OBC Category "A" and "B" respectively** have been provided in respect of admission to primary and higher secondary courses. No reservation for OBCs in higher education has yet been introduced in admission to educational courses. In case of non availability of suitable student in admission to educational Institutions seats can be filled by general candidate after obtaining permission from the prescribed authority. The prescribed authority for the district is the District Commissioner for Reservation.

4) Old Age Pension to ST (BPL) Beneficiaries : Old aged poor persons of rural areas particularly those who belong to Scheduled Tribe Communities are the most disadvantaged group of people. They are vulnerable to different social and economic problems. Large section of these people lives in extreme poverty. The often face hunger, debt, isolation and destitution. Overcoming these difficulties, sometimes become a great challenge to them for their survival. Considering these difficulties faced by the old aged persons belonging to the ST Communities of rural areas, the State Government has been implementing this scheme. Objective of the scheme is to ensure social protection of the elderly population by means of financial assistance. This will definitely reduce poverty, help to access health care and improve social standing of this disadvantaged section of population.

Eligibility Criteria of the beneficiary :

- i) He/She shall be a resident of the state of West Bengal and living Below Poverty Level (BPL) in rural area or
- ii) He/She shall be a member of Scheduled Tribes (ST) Community.
- iii) His/her age shall be 60 years or higher.
- iv) No beneficiary under National Old Age Pension Scheme or Old Age Pension Scheme of the Social Welfare Department of the State or Similar Government Old Age Pension Scheme, if any will be eligible for this scheme.

Eligible persons will apply to Pradhans, Gram Panchayat in the prescribed Performa. The Pradhan, Gram Panchayat will check and verify the application and certify about the eligibility of the candidates and submit the duly filled in and recommended applications to the B.D.O. The B.D.O. will verify all the applications and send the list of eligible candidates to the District Welfare Officer, BCW in the prescribed Performa. The D.W.O. will further verify the list of eligible persons and get approval of the same from the competent authority of G.T.A. instead of ADM/DM in G.T.A. area.

The Old Age Pension to ST (BPL) beneficiaries are paying @ Rs. 1000/- per head per month through their Saving Bank / Post Office Account Numbers from the concerned Block Development Officer and the Scheme is monitoring by the District Welfare Officer, Backward Classes Welfare, G.T.A., Darjeeling.

5) Community Development Schemes : The Backward Classes Welfare Department, Gorkhaland Territorial Administration, Darjeeling is carried out various development schemes under sector SCA to SCSP, SCA To TSP and Article 275 (i) of the Constitution for the benefit of SC/ST Communities as per guidelines of the Government, which are as follows :-

i) SCA to SCSP : Under this Sector, this Department is executing schemes like construction of Hostels, Minor Irrigations , Village Link Roads, Culverts, Drinking Water Supply Schemes etc. in the Scheduled Castes concentrated areas (Hamlets/ Villages) for the benefit of the Scheduled Caste beneficiaries.

ii) SCA To TSP : As per guidelines of the Government, this department is also carried out schemes such as Village Link Roads, Bridges, Culverts, Hostels, Drinking Water Supply Schemes etc. in the Scheduled Tribes concentrated areas for the benefit of the Scheduled Tribe beneficiaries.

iii) Article 275 (i) of the Constitution : Projects like Hostels, Minor Irrigations, Drinking Water Supply Schemes, Village Link Roads, Culverts, Bridges etc. are carried out in ST dominated Non-ITDP Mouzas or dispersed Tribal Villages / Pockets in G.T.A. area for the benefit of ST beneficiaries.

6) Ashram Hostels / School Attached Hostels / Central Hostels :

A) Ashram Hostels : There are 5 (five) Ashram Hostels running by this department in G.T.A area in the district of Darjeeling for the benefit of poor Scheduled Tribe Students attached to High Schools and Primary School. There is a provision for accommodation of 20 ST students in the Ashram Hostels attached to High Schools and 30 ST students in the Ashram Hostel attached to Primary School. The maintenance charges of these Ashram Hostels are borne by the BCW Department. The Ashram Hostels running by this department as above is noted below :-

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|---|---|----|--------------|
| i) Ashram Hostel attached to Mirik High School, Mirik. | - | 20 | ST Students. |
| ii) Ashram Hostel attached to Lamahatta High School, Lamahatta. | - | 20 | ST Students. |
| iii) Ashram Hostel attached to Rimbick High School, Rimbick | - | 20 | ST Students. |
| iv) Ashram Hostel attached to Gitdabling High School, Kalimpong. | - | 20 | ST Students. |
| iii) Ashram Hostel attached to Chegra Tribal Pry. School, Takdah. | - | 30 | ST Students. |

(11)

B) School attached Hostels: There are 9 (nine) School attached Hostels running in G.T.A. area for SC/ST Students under the supervision of this department. The Hostel Charges to the Hostellers will be awarded by this department subject to receive of application form alongwith all necessary required documents from the students as per norms of Government. The running School attached Hostels are as follows :-

- i) Holy Cross Girls High School, Sonada, Darjeeling.
- ii) Ramakrishana Girls High School, Kurseong.
- iii) St. Philominas Girls High School, Kalimpong.
- iv) Girls High School, Kalimpong.
- v) St. Georges High School, Pedong, Kalimpong.
- vi) Pagang Gumba, Algarah, Kalimpong.
- vii) Shankar High School, Kalimpong.

C) Central Hostels : There are 3 (three) nos. of Central Hostels for ST Girls and Boys in G.T.A. area, they are :-

- i) Central Hostel for ST Boys (40 bedded) at Kalimpong.
- ii) Central Hostel for ST Girls (60 bedded) at Kalimpong.
(The above two Central Hostels are running at present
- iii) Central Hostel for ST Girls (60 bedded) at Kurseong - Construction of Hostel Building is completed with its infrastructures. Recruitment of staff is under process to start its function.

In addition to the above, on and around Rs. 14.00 lakh has also been sanctioned during the year 1995 for construction of Central Hostel for ST Boys (60 bedded) at Darjeeling town. But, the hostel could not be constructed till date due to non availability of land in spite of having tremendous efforts from this end and the fund lying with the account of the West Bengal SC/ST Development and Finance Corporation, Darjeeling Branch.

7) Sale Permission of Tribal Land : Under Chapter II A of 14 (C) modes of transfer of land by Scheduled Tribes. A raiyat belonging to a Scheduled Tribe may transfer his holding or Part thereof in any one of the following ways namely :-

- a) By a complete usufructuary mortgage entered into with a person belonging to Sch. Tribe for a period not exceeding seven years.
- b) By sale on gift to the Govt. for Public or charitable purpose.
- c) By simple mortgage to the Govt. or to a registered Co-operative Society.
- d) By simple mortgage or mortgage by deposit of title or deeds in favour of Scheduled Bank, a Co-operative land mortgage bank or a Corporation, owned or controlled by the Central of State Government or by both for the development of land or improvement of agricultural production.
- e) By gift or will to a person belonging to Sch. Tribe.
- f) By sale or exchange in favour of any person belonging to a Sch. Tribe.

Provided that any such raiyat may, with the previous permission, in writing, of the Revenue Officer, transfer by sale his holding or any part thereof to a person not belonging to any Sch. Tribe.

Provided further that no such permission shall be granted by the Revenue Officer unless he is satisfied that no purchaser belonging to a Sch. Tribe is willing to pay the fair market price of the holding or any part thereof and that the proposed sale is intended to be made for one or more of the following purpose.

- (a) For the improvement of any part of the holding or*
- (b) for investment or*
- (c) for such other purpose as may be prescribed.*

However, such permission will be granted only if the Higher authority approved the case for sale of tribal land to non-tribal.

8) Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989 and Prevention of Civil Right Act 1995

i) **Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989:** As per the provision under Rule 17 of the Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules 1955 in each district within the state, the District Magistrate shall set up a vigilance and Monitoring Committee in the district to review the implementation of the provision of Act, relief rehabilitation facilities provided to the victims and other matter connected therewith prosecution of cases under Act.

If any person of Sch. Castes and Sch. Tribes be a victim of offence of atrocities by the Upper Caste, the person may lodged complaint to the nearest Police Station for necessary action as per Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, if the concerned Police Station does not take any action as per law against the Person(s) whose name is / are mentioned in the complaint, the sch. Castes or Sch. Tribes person should contact with the concerned District Magistrate, Superintendent of Police, Sub-Divisional Officer or Project-cum-District Welfare Officer, Backward Classes Welfare, if necessary complaint may be lodged through the website “www.anagrasarkalyan.gov.in / www.bcwdwb.gov.in” of Government of West Bengal, Backward Classes Welfare Department directly.

An offence committed under the Act shall be investigated by a Police Officer not below the rank of a Deputy Superintendant of Police. The investigating Officer shall be appointed by the State Govt. Director General of Police / Superintendant of Police after taking into account of the past experience. Sense of ability and justice to perceive the implications of the case and investigate it alongwith right line within the shortest possible time.

Under Section 15 of the Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 (33 of 1989) the Govt. has established a special Court i.e. Court of first Additional Session Judge and appoint the Public Prosecutor in the district for trial of cases under POA Act in all 19 district of West Bengal under the POA Act 1989.

ii) **Prevention of Civil Right Act, 1995** : In our country, any type of untouchability is treated as punishable offence and the accused person shall be punishable as per P.C.R. Act, 1955.

9) Scheduled Tribes & Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights)Act, 2006 :

i) **Objectives:** The objectives of the above act is to recognize and vest Forest Rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling scheduled tribes and other traditional forest dwellers. To set right historical injustices to the forest dwelling scheduled tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who are integral to the very survival and sustainliblity of the forest eco-system. To ensure livelihood and food security to the forest dwelling scheduled tribes and other traditional forest dwellers.

ii) Eligibility :

a) Forest Dwelling ST are those members of the community of ST who primarily reside in and who depend on forest land for bonafide livelihood needs and are in occupation of forest land **before 13th December, 2005**.

(b) Other traditional forest dwellers are those who primarily reside in and who depend on forest land for bonafide livelihood needs and are in occupation of forest land **for 75 years before 13th December, 2005**.

iii) Forest Rights :

- a) Right to hold and live under individual or common occupation.
- b) Right of ownership, access to collect, use and dispose of minor forest produce.
- c) Community rights in lands under different zamindari regimes.
- d) Community rights of uses or entitlements such as fish and other products of water bodies, grazing etc.
- e) Right of settlement and conversion of all forest villages into revenue villages.
- f) Right to protect, regenerate or conserve or manage any community forest resources.
- g) Right to in situ rehabilitation including alternative land in case of illegal eviation of ST & O.T.F.D. without rehabilitation prior to 13.12.2005.
- h) Right heritable but not transferable.
- i) Settlement of land not exceeding 4 hectares.
- j) Jointly in the names of both of the spouses.
- h) In case of rights causing irreversible damage to wild life, rights holders are to be relocated after completion of the resettlement package.

iv) Committees : *The following Committees will implement the Forest Right Act, 2006 and formation of such Committees will be as per Forest Rights Act and Rules.*

- a) Statutory :**
- 1) Gram Sabha (Gram Sansad in West Bengal).
 - 2) Forest Right Committee.
 - 3) Sub-Divisional Level Committee.
 - 4) District Level Committee.
 - 5) State Level Monitoring Committee.

- b) Non Statutory :**
- 1) 4 (four) Govt. Officials in the FRC as invitees.
 - 2) Block Level Monitoring Committee.

The concerned Departments like the P & R D, Forest, L & L R and BCW will extend all necessary assistance and furnish all necessary documents to different Committees for determination of Forest Rights, identities etc. of the Forest Dwellers and other related affairs.

10) National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation :- N.B.C.F.D.C. is an apex level finance and development institution set up by Govt. of India under the ministry of welfare with prime objective to promote economic and development activities for the benefit of backward classes and to assist member of backward classes by way of loans and grants subject to such income and economic criteria as may be prescribed by the Govt. of India from time to time, NBCFDC grants concessional financial assistance under agriculture and allied activities, artisan and traditional occupation, technical trades and self employment, small business, small scale industries, transport services etc.

West Bengal Backward Classes Development and Finance Corporation WBBCDFC has been established by the Govt. of West Bengal by an Act XXIV of 1955 on 10/10/1995 for releasing financial assistance in time form of schematic loans to persons belonging to Other Backward Classes and living below double the property live, it act as the channelizing agency of National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation.

11) Miscellaneous : This department is also co-coordinating to the Cultural Research Institute, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Kolkata, time to time with the works relating to conduct ethnographic survey of the different aspiring ST communities of three hill sub- divisions of Darjeeling district under G.T.A. area. In addition, to enquire SC/ST/OBC Certificates, to attend the programme of Assembly Committee/Parliamentary Committee, SC/ST/OBC Commission, to attend different State Level Meetings, District Level Meetings, Meetings of G.T.A., as well as to organize function like distribution of B.R.Ambedkar Medha Puraskar to the selected SC/ST students of G.T.A. area etc.

WEST BENGAL SCHEDULED CASTES & SCHEDULED TRIBES DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE CORPORATION, G.T.A., DARJEELING.

Brief Profile and Function : West Bengal Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development and Finance Corporation was set up through the West Bengal Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development and Finance Corporation Act, 1976 (Act XXXIV of 1976) read with W.B. Act XLV of 1980 and W.B. Act XLII of 1981 with the specific object to uplift the economic condition of the SC and St People of the State. As per the provision of the Act, the Corporation generally under takes the Welfare schemes for the benefit of the SC and ST people. It provides financial assistance by way of providing Subsidy, Margin Money and Bank Loan.

1) FAMILY ORIENTED INCOME GENERATING SCHEMES UNDER S.C.P. :- This is a Mid Term Lending Programme for the Scheduled Castes propel with the involvement of Banks. The cases are sponsored by the Municipalities and Blocks. The salient features of this scheme is as follows :-

- a) Scheme given to members of Scheduled caste Community.
- b) Applicant has to be from the B.P.L. Category (i.e. The Annual Family Income of the Applicant residing in Urban Areas should not exceed Rs. 51,500/- & Rs. 40,500/- in Rural Areas.
- c) Age limit of the Applicant should be 18 to 50 years.
- d) The Total Project Cost is Rs. 35,000/- Subsidy is provided to 50% of the Total Project Cost to a maximum of Rs. 10,000/- only & 20% of the Project Cost to a maximum Rs. 20,000/- only will be given to those Applicants whose Project Cost is limited to Rs. 12,000/-. The rest will be Bank Loan.

2) MAHILA SAMRIDDI YOJANA (M.S.Y.) :

- a) Applicable for Scheduled Castes Women beneficiaries only.
- b) Annual Family Income of the Applicant should be Rs. 81,000/- in Rural Areas & Rs. 1,03,000/- in Urban Areas.
- c) Total Project Cost is Rs. 25,000/- 50% of the Loan Amount to maximum of Rs. 10,000/- will be given to Poverty Level Applicants only. The rest Amount will be provided as Loan from the Corporation repayable with 3% interest.
- d) Age Limit of the Applicants should be 18 to 50 years.

3) N.S.F.D.C. PROGRAMME :

- a) Scheme provided to members of the Scheduled Castes Community.
- b) Annual Income should not exceed (for DPL) Rs. 81,000/- in rural areas and Rs. 1,03,000/- in urban areas (Revised rates w.e.f. 01/04/2013).
- c) Age limit 18 to 50 years.
- d) Maximum project cost is Rs. 30 lakh, The project cost will depend upon the type of scheme approved by the Corporation. Subsidy at the rate of Rs. 10,000,00 only will be given to BPL candidates. 2% of the Project cost to a maximum of Rs. 10,000.00 will be provided as margin money repayable @ 4% interest per annum. A nominal sum of 2 to 5% will be Promoters share and the rest will be NSFDC loan carrying an interest of 6% p.a. for loans up to 5 lakhs and 8% for loans beyond 5 lakhs.

4) SPECIAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE UNDER T.S.P. :

- a) Group loan given to members of the ST community.
- b) 100% subsidized scheme.
- c) Each group consisting of 7 to 20 applicants will be provided subsidy @ Rs. 10,000.00 per applicant.
- d) Age limit 18 to 50 years.

5) NSTFDC PROGRAMME :

- A) Maximum Project Cost of Rs. 10 lakhs.
- b) Given to member of the ST community.
- c) Other criteria same as NSFDC.

6) EDUCATIONAL LOAN :

- a) Given to members of the SC community.
- b) Applicants to apply online and visit our website at [www.wbsed.gov.in /wbscstdfc](http://www.wbsed.gov.in/wbscstdfc) for details.

LAUNCH OF NEW SCHEME BY THE CORPORATION FROM THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR 2013-14.

7) NARI ARTHIK SASHAKTIKARAN YOJANA (NASY) :

- i) **OBJECTIVE** : To support the Single Women / Widows / Women who are head of their families to take up income generation activity and improve their socio-economic status.

(16)

ii) **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA** : The eligibility criteria for coverage of beneficiaries under the NASY shall be as follows:

- a) The applicants should be persons belonging to Scheduled Castes.
- b) Their annual family income should be below Double the Poverty Line (Presently Rs. 81,000/- in rural area and Rs. 1,03,000/- in urban areas).
- c) The applicant should be either Single Woman (Widow, Divorcee, Single Mother or Single Woman aged above 35 years).
- d) All Women registered under Widow Pension Scheme who strictly meet the conditions as per (a) & (b) above would be eligible for loans under the Scheme.
- e) The age of the applicant should be between 35 to 50 years.

iii) **UNIT COST** : The eligible candidates can avail financial assistance under any of NSFDC'S Schemes as per unit cost prescribed for those Schemes.

iv) **QUANTUM OF ASSISTANCE** :

- a) NSFDC would provide need based loans under the Scheme as permissible under NSFDC Term Loan Lending Policy, without insisting on any promoter contribution and after taking into consideration the margin money being provided by SCAs and subsidy provided to BPL beneficiaries under Central Sector Scheme of Special Central Assistance to the Special Component Plans @ Rs. 10,000/- or 50% of the unit cost, whichever is less.
- b) The beneficiaries selected under the Scheme can also be considered for assistance under NSFDC'S Skill training Programme to undergo relevant vocational and entrepreneur development training in reputed institutions. If she so desires.
- c) The SCA would be provided 2% of the loan amount as grant for the purpose of carrying out handholding activity, subject to maximum of Rs. 4,000/- per unit.
- d) The beneficiaries covered under the Scheme would be eligible to avail further assistance for expansion of business after 2 years of avilment of first loan provided the repayment is regular.

v) **INTEREST RATES** : The NSFDC shall charge @ 4% p.a. from the beneficiaries.

vi) **REPAYMENT PERIOD** : The loan is to be repaid in quarterly installments, within a maximum period of 10 years including moratorium period.

8) TRIBAL FOREST DWELLERS EMPOWERMENT SCHEME UNDER NSTFDC:

i) **OBJECTIVE** : Government of India has enacted the Sch. Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006. Under this act, Sch. Tribes and Other Traditional forest Dwellers have been given the right to hold the forest land for habitation and for self-cultivation or for any other traditional activity for generating livelihood.

ii) **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

- a) A Scheduled Tribe, who has received land right under the Forest Right Act, 2006.
- b) The annual family income of the applicant should not exceed Double the Poverty Line (DPL) limit. Present limit is Rs. 81,000/- p.a. for the rural areas and Rs. 1,03,000/- p.a. for the urban areas.

iii) **QUANTUM OF ASSISTANCE :** Unit cost of the scheme can be upto Rs. 1 lakh. Upto 90% assistance from NSTFDC as concessional loan and the balance by way of promoters' contribution / margin money / subsidy.

iv) **HANDHOLDING SUPPORT /TRAINING :** Forest Right Holders seeking financial assistance from NSTFDC will be entitled to handholding support and need bases training in the relevant field.

v) **RATE OF INTEREST :** 6% p.a. chargeable from beneficiary.

vi) **REAYMENT PERIOD :** The loan is to be repaid in quarterly installments, within a maximum period of 5 years including moratorium period of six months.

vii) **INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES :**

Minor Irrigation	Vermi Compost	Sericulture / Bee Keeping
Highly yielding variety seeds	Medicinal / Ornamental Plants	Floriculture
Horticulture	Poultry	Goat / Sheep rearing
Rubber plantation	Piggery	Fruit Orchards
Betel Nut Cultivation	Dairy	Minor Forest Produce

Note : *The above is only an indicative list and applicants can undertake any other viable income generating activity also.*

viii) **PROCEDURE FOR AVAILILNG FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE BY SCH. TRIBES :**

- a) Eligible STs can apply for loan through SCA in their State / UT of domicile in the prescribed format. The applicants shall submit tribe & income certificates issued by the competent authorities of the concerned State Govt. along with a copy of Land rights issued by the competent authority to the SCA.
- b) The applicant will required to submit an undertaking to the effect that no loan is availed by the applicant from any other source for the proposed activity to the SCA.
- c) (Details of SCAs are available on the website of NSTFDC www.nstfdc.nic.in) .
