

Dalit Bandhu

Details (Dalit Bandhu)

The Dalit Bandhu Scheme is a unique initiative launched by the government of Telangana to promote the economic development of families belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) community. The scheme provides financial assistance of Rs. ■ As a part of a multi-pronged approach, in addition to existing entitlements like food security, education, and social security, a different strategy with a new initiative "Telangana Dalit Bandhu" is introduced to intensify the level of financial assistance to SC households for the establishment of suitable income generating economic support schemes as the delivery of credit by banks in the form of loans has become a constraint. ■ Under the scheme, eligible families will receive financial assistance of Rs. The scheme is expected to benefit over 20 lakh families in the state over the next few years. One-time capital assistance of Rs.10 lakhs per SC family is provided for all SC families as a 100% grant/subsidy to establish suitable income-generating schemes as per their choice (without bank loan linkage).

Objectives (Dalit Bandhu)

- ■ The main objective of the scheme is to reduce poverty and promote entrepreneurship among the SC community, which has historically been marginalized and faced discrimination in society. ■ Overall, the Dalit Bandhu Scheme is a path
 - breaking initiative that aims to uplift the socio
 - economic status of the SC community in Telangana.

Important Features (Dalit Bandhu)

- ■ As a part of a multi pronged approach, in addition to existing entitlements like food security, education, and social security, a different strategy with a new initiative "Telangana Dalit Bandhu" is introduced to intensify the level of financial assistance to SC households for the establishment of suitable income generating economic support schemes as the delivery of credit by banks in the form of loans has become a constraint.

Benefits (Dalit Bandhu)

- The Dalit Bandhu Scheme in Telangana has several benefits for the Scheduled Caste (SC) families who are eligible for the scheme. Here are some of the benefits:
 - Financial assistance: The scheme provides financial assistance of Rs. 10 lakhs to eligible SC families to start their own businesses or entrepreneurial ventures. This grant can be used to purchase equipment, raw materials, and other resources needed to start a business, which can help these families become self-reliant and improve their financial status. There is a one-time capital assistance of Rs.10 lakhs per SC family is provided for all SC families as a 100% grant/subsidy to establish suitable income generating schemes as per their choice (without bank loan linkage).
 - Employment opportunities: The scheme is expected to create employment opportunities for the beneficiaries as they start their own businesses. This can help to reduce unemployment and poverty among the SC community in Telangana.
 - Promotes entrepreneurship: The scheme is aimed at promoting entrepreneurship among the SC community in Telangana, which can help to create a culture of innovation and self-reliance. By providing financial support and guidance, the scheme encourages SC families to take up entrepreneurship as a viable career option.
 - Reduces economic disparities: The scheme is expected to reduce economic disparities between the SC community and other sections of society by promoting economic development among the marginalized sections of society. This can lead to more inclusive growth and development in the state.
 - Empowers SC families: By providing financial assistance and support to start their own businesses, the scheme empowers SC families to take charge of their own economic development and become self-sufficient. This can help to reduce their dependence on government subsidies and loans and promote a sense of pride and dignity.
- Moreover, Dalit Bandhu Scheme in Telangana has several benefits for the SC community, including financial assistance, employment opportunities, and the promotion of entrepreneurship. The scheme has the potential to reduce economic disparities and promote inclusive growth in the state.

Eligibility (Dalit Bandhu)

- Here are the eligibility criteria for the scheme: ■ The scheme is applicable only to families belonging to the SC community. The applicant must be a resident of Telangana. The family should have an annual income of less than Rs. 2.5 lakh. The family should not own more than 3 acres of agricultural land or more than one residential house. The applicant should not have availed of any other government loan or subsidy. The applicant should have a viable business plan or entrepreneurial idea that can be supported by the grant. The applicant should be willing to contribute 10% of the project cost. The applicant should have a bank account. The applicant should have a digital identity, such as an Aadhaar card. The applicant should be between the ages of 25 and 50. The applicant should have passed at least the 10th standard. The applicant should not have a criminal record or have been convicted of a crime. ■ These eligibility criteria have been put in place to ensure that the scheme benefits those who are most in need of financial assistance to start their own businesses or entrepreneurial ventures. By targeting eligible SC families who meet these criteria, the government aims to ensure that the benefits of the scheme reach the intended beneficiaries and help to reduce economic disparities in the state. ■ The eligibility criteria for the Dalit Bandhu scheme in Telangana are based on the socio-economic conditions of the Dalit families. According to the Telangana Chief Minister, K. Chandrasekhar Rao, the following parameters will be considered in the eligibility survey: ■ Land holdings Annual income Savings Liabilities Education Skills Employment status ■ The eligibility survey will be conducted by a dedicated agency, the Telangana Dalit Bandhu Corporation, which will also provide capacity
- building and training programs, as well as support for marketing and access to credit. It is worth noting that the scheme is not based on caste certificates, but on the socio-economic conditions of the families. Eligible Dalit families will receive financial assistance of Rs. 10 lakhs in a phased manner to start their own businesses or ventures.

Application Process (Dalit Bandhu)

- The application process for the Dalit Bandhu scheme in Telangana is as follows: ■ Eligible applicants can obtain the application form from the website of the Telangana State Scheduled Castes Development Corporation (TSSCDC).
- The application form must be duly filled in and submitted along with the required documents to the TSSCDC office in the applicant's district.
- The required documents include proof of identity, proof of residence, proof of age, proof of income, proof of educational qualifications, a viable business plan or entrepreneurial idea, and a bank account number.
- Once the application is received and verified, the TSSCDC will conduct a feasibility study of the proposed business or entrepreneurial venture.
- The TSSCDC will then approve the grant and disburse the funds directly to the applicant's bank account.
- The applicant will be required to contribute 10% of the project cost, and the grant will cover the remaining 90%.
- The applicant will also be required to undergo training in financial management, entrepreneurship, and other relevant skills.
- The applicant will be required to submit regular progress reports to the TSSCDC, and the performance of the business or entrepreneurial venture will be monitored.
- ■ The application process for the Dalit Bandhu scheme is designed to be transparent and efficient, with a focus on ensuring that the benefits of the scheme reach the intended beneficiaries.
- By providing financial assistance and support to eligible SC families to start their own businesses or entrepreneurial ventures, the government aims to reduce economic disparities and promote inclusive growth in the state.
- ■ Based on the information available so far, it is likely that the application process will also involve the following steps: ■ Eligible Dalit families will be identified through a comprehensive survey of their socio-economic conditions.
- The Telangana Dalit Bandhu Corporation, which is the implementing agency for the scheme, will notify the eligible families and provide them with information on the application process.
- The eligible families will be required to submit an application, which will include details of their proposed business or venture, as well as any other relevant information.

- The applications will be reviewed and processed by the Corporation, which will provide financial assistance in a phased manner to the approved beneficiaries.
- The beneficiaries will also receive capacity-building and training programs, as well as support for marketing and access to credit.
- ■ It is important to note that the exact details of the application process will be communicated by TSSCDC, and the application process may be subject to change.
- ■ Visit the Website for more details - <https://dalitbandhu.telangana.gov.in/Home/Index>

Documents Required (Dalit Bandhu)

- Caste certificate
- Bank account details
- Valid mobile number
- Aadhar card
- Voter ID card
- Residential proof ■

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