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A training and skilling upgradation scheme by the Department of Industries & Commerce and implemented by the Directorate of Handicraft & Handloom, Government of Jammu & Kashmir wherein passout meritorious trainees and ex-trainees from departmental training centers are identified and are provided skill upgradation training in crafts which are facing human resource crunch as well as in languishing crafts. Registered Karkhanas/Karkhandars are identified who are willing to enroll a batch of trainees and ex-trainees in their Karkhana. A minimum of five trainees for a small Karkhana and a maximum of 10 trainees for a big Karkhana. A minimum of one and a maximum of five training programs per craft shall be considered for the six-month duration of the training program.

Objectives of the Scheme:

- Revive the languishing crafts.
- Upscale the learning techniques of trainees.
- Improve the wage earnings of the craftsmen by leading them into collectivization.
- Create linkages with producer organizations to inculcate entrepreneurship skills and aptitude in the trainees.

Vision of the scheme: The artisans who form the backbone of the craft sector work in an exploitative chain of business leading them to a vicious cycle of poverty and pessimism. A huge number of artisans (mostly the male folk) are forced to abandon the craft activity due to low wage earnings and poor socio-economic status. It is felt that this scheme shall emerge as one of the most effective pathways to address the challenges being faced by the artisan community. Exposing the pass-out trainees to improved productivity procedures adopted by producer groups can lead them to better productivity and leverage their collective skill up-gradation which can help in promoting sustainable livelihoods as the artisans can gain direct access to customized production, new design development, technology-related modifications, and above all can have the pulse of market demands.

Financial assistance to Trainees: Rate of stipend per trainee/ per month:- ₹ 2,000/- (₹ 1,000/- shall be paid through an individual bank account and the rest of the amount shall be disbursed on the successful completion of probation/ practical training session). The trainees are facilitated in the opening of Bank accounts under the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY).

Financial assistance to the Karkhandar (Trainer): Logistic Charges/Honorarium to Trainer/Karkhandar: ₹ 1,200/- per trainee per month. (A minimum of five trainees for an identified small Karkhana and a maximum of 10 trainees for an identified big Karkhana.) The Karkhandar is provided a lump sum of ₹ 25,000/- per batch as expenditure on account of all the logistics needed for running the training program successfully, i.e. tools, equipment, looms, raw material, space, etc. The amount shall be disbursed in two installments: 1st installment at the commencement of the training program 2nd installment on successful completion of the training program.

Note: The honorarium to Karkhandars shall be disbursed only after assessing that the desired level of skills is achieved by the trainee and trainees shall be evaluated through an approved qualifying framework devised for skill up-gradation level. The disbursement shall be through DBT mode only.

Eligibility: The applicant must be a pass-out trainee/ex-trainee from a departmental training center. The departmental training center must be run by the Handicrafts & Handloom Department. The applicant must have an Aadhaar linked Bank Account.

Application Process: Offline Take print of the format of the application form and the Affidavit provided in Annexure-A & Annexure-B of the scheme guidelines.

<http://www.jkindustriescommerce.nic.in/Orders%202021/161%20IND%20OF%202021.pdf>

Duly fill and sign the Application Form and the Affidavit, attach the self-attested copies of the supporting documents along with a passport-size photograph, and submit the same to the given address:

Directorate of Handicrafts & Handloom Govt . of Jammu & Kashmir
J.L.N. Udyog Bhavan,
Railhead Complex, Panama Chowk
Jammu, Jammu & Kashmir - 180 016

NOTE: The physical copy of the format of the application form & the Affidavit can also be obtained from the Directorate of Handicrafts and Handloom.

Documents Required:

- Aadhaar Number
- Bank Details
- Domicile Certificate
- Proof of Identity
- Proof of Age/DOB
- Proof reg. Latest Educational Qualification
- Proof of Training(s) Received (if any)
- Registration Card (Handicrafts & Handloom Department, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir) (if registered)
- Supporting documents regarding the number of wholesalers/ retailers/ exporters/ e-commerce portals with whom market linkages have been established by the Karkhandar

Frequently Asked Questions

Will The Benefit Be Provided As A One-Time Assistance? Yes, the benefit will be provided as one-time assistance.

Who All Can Apply For The Scheme? Ans. Meritorious pass-out trainees/ex-trainees of the departmental training centers to opt for registration under the Karkhandar Scheme.

What Financial Assistance Will Be Provided To The Karkhandar? The Karkhandar shall be provided a lump sum of ₹ 25,000/- per batch as expenditure on account of all the logistics needed for running the training program successfully. Logistic Charges/ Honorarium to Trainer/Karkhandar: - ₹ 1,200/- per trainee per month.

Is There Any Minimum Educational Qualification Required To Avail Of The Benefits Under The Scheme? No, trainees from any educational background can apply to this scheme.

Can Pass-Out Trainees Apply To This Scheme As Well? Yes, both present and pass-out trainees from from departmental training centers are eligible for the Karkhandar Scheme.

What Is Meant By "Languishing Crafts"? "Languishing Crafts" include Glazed Pottery, Turquoise craft, and Darning.

What Is The Maximum Number Of Trainees Allowed Per Karkhana? A minimum of five trainees for a small Karkhana and a maximum of 10 trainees for a big Karkhana.

What Is The Duration Of The Craft Training Programme? The duration of the training programme shall be six months.

Who Is The Implementing Agency For The Karkhandar Scheme? Directorate of Handicraft & Handloom, Govt. of Jammu & Kashmir is the Implementing Agency for the Karkhandar Scheme.

What Benefits Under This Scheme Shall Be For The Karkhandar? Logistic Charges/ Honorarium to Trainer/Karkhandar: Rs. 2,000/- per trainee per month. The Karkhandar is provided a lump sum of Rs. 25,000/- per batch as expenditure on account of all the logistics needed for running the training program successfully, i.e. tools, equipment, looms, raw material, space, etc.

Will The Financial Assistance Under This Scheme Be Provided In Cash? No, the disbursement of the amount of financial assistance shall be through DBT mode only.

Can I Apply Offline To This Scheme? No, as of now the scheme accepts applications only through offline mode.

What If I Apply To This Scheme But Have To Leave The Training Programme Midway? The applicant is required to sign an undertaking that he/she intends to undergo the Karkhandar scheme and in no case, he/she shall leave the course midway. In case he/she leaves the course midway, then in such a case he/she shall refund the entire stipend.

Sources And References: Guidelines Application Form (Annexure-A & Annexure-B) Affidavit (Page 7/7) List Of Training Centers Of Handicrafts Department

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