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Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education

New Delhi
9th February 2010

To
The Secretary
University Grants Commission
Bahadurshah Zafar Marg
New Delhi 110002

Sub: Setting up Model degree colleges in identified Educationally Backward districts

Sir,

The Central Government has approved a scheme to assist State Governments to set up Model degree colleges in each of the 374 identified educationally backward districts where the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) for higher education is less than the national GER. A list of the identified districts is enclosed.

2. The broad parameters of the scheme as approved by the Government are as under:

- (a) The Central Government shall provide assistance to the extent of one-third (1/3rd) of the capital cost for establishment of each college, limited to Rs. 2.67 crore. For Special Category States, the Central share shall be 50% of the capital cost limited to Rs. 4.00 crore for each college.
- (b) Land shall be provided free of cost by the State Governments. The balance amount of the capital cost, and the recurring cost of running these new colleges shall be met by the State Governments concerned.
- (c) During the remaining period of the 11th Five Year Plan, assistance shall be provided for establishing 200 Model colleges in identified districts, with priority being given to Special Category States and districts having concentration of weaker sections and minorities as well as other districts in Schedule V and Schedule VI areas.
- (d) Those colleges which have been established on or after 1st January 2008 in the identified districts shall also be eligible to be covered under this

Scheme and eligible for proportionate Central assistance, provided all other conditions under the Scheme are satisfied in such proposals.

(e) A clear Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be signed with each State Government before any release of funds is made.

(f) The Scheme shall be implemented both through the University Grants Commission (UGC) (which can release funds to the affiliating university concerned for establishment of the college as its constituent college) and also alternatively, by way of direct release of funds by the Ministry of Human Resource Development to the State Government concerned, which may like to set up the college either as an affiliated or a constituent college of State Universities for which a separate communication is being sent to the State Governments.

3. You may kindly process all proposals lying with the Commission satisfying the guidelines of the UGC and adhering to the above, expeditiously. While approving proposals, you may like to give preference for establishment of Girls' Colleges, with hostel facilities, particularly in minority concentrated districts.

Yours faithfully


(Sunil Kumar)

Joint Secretary (Higher Education)

Encl: as above