

# Awareness Session on National Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) held in Meerut

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The Department of School Education and Literacy, (DoSEL) Ministry of Education organised an Awareness Session on the Central Sector scholarship scheme, National Means cum Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) with the District Nodal Officers (DNOs) and School Heads and teachers under the Chairmanship of Smt. A. Srija, Economic Advisor, DoSEL on August 2, 2025.

The awareness session in Uttar Pradesh covered the Districts of Baghpat, Bulandshahr, Gautam Buddh Nagar, Ghaziabad, Hapur, Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Saharanpur, Shamli.





In her Welcome Address the Chairperson highlighted that the NMMSS is a merit scholarship scheme implemented to help children from economically weaker sections complete their schooling especially at the secondary level from Class IX to XII. She pointed that the State of Uttar Pradesh has the highest allotted quota of 15000 fresh scholarships annually and asked the officials to focus on the timely verification of the student's applications on the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) so that the deserving children receive their scholarship.

The NMMSS is onboarded on the National Scholarship Portal since 2018-19 and the students selected on merit after class VIII based on written exam are to get themselves registered on the National Scholarship Portal in Class IX using theirs or either of their parent's Aadhaar card. The students are to first get their One Time Registration done on the NSP portal after which they are to apply for the scholarship of their choice. Apart from NMMSS, the scholarship schemes of other Central Ministries and States/UTs are onboarded on the portal. To avoid duplication of scholarship benefits to the same students, the NSP had introduced the OTR in 2024-25.

During the Awareness Session, DoSEL explained and demonstrated the process of registering on the NSP, the common errors that are to be avoided by the students while applying for the OTR and applying for the scholarship. The session also covered the process of registration and verification by the Nodal Officers (teachers) at the school level, who undertake the first level of verification of the students' applications on the NSP and the second level of verification which is done at the District level by the District Nodal Officers.

Under NMMSS there are only two levels of verification one at the school level and the other at the district level following which the applications get reflected on the NSP. While the students apply for fresh scholarships at class IX, the students of class X, XI and XII apply for renewal scholarships on the portal. States/UTs conduct selection exams every year to select fresh students eligible for the merit scholarship while the renewal students become eligible based on the 60% marks scored by them and get promoted to the next class level.

The NMMSS is a pre matric scholarship scheme open only to students studying in government and government aided schools and excludes KVS, NVS and other govt residential schools. To facilitate the selected children register and apply for the scholarship on the NSP using biometric authentication with their Aadhaar card, and the two level verification to be done on the portal after biometric authentication of the Nodal Officers using their Aadhaar card, the Department has embarked on conducting Orientation Sessions with the States/UTs to familiarise them with the procedure for operating through the NSP for availing the scholarship.

The scholarship amount of Rs.12000 per annum is disbursed as Direct Benefit Transfer using Aadhaar Payment Bridge either into the bank account of the students or their parents, for which the bank account is to be linked with Aadhaar Number and Aadhaar seeded.

A total of 210 participants attended the workshop from the Meerut Mandal, marking a significant representation from across the Mandal. Among the other participants from DoSEL included Ms. Sreekala P

Venugopal, Director, Ms. Hema Malini, Under Secretary, Mr. Ram Singh, Deputy Director, Prof. Bharti Kaushik, CIET, NCERT and other team members.

Apart from NMMSS, the Department also gave Orientation to the participants on community mobilisation and CSR participation for strengthening school infrastructure and improving learning outcomes through Vidyanjali-The school Volunteer initiative, on the conduct of the School Challenge initiative on boarded on the MyGov portal to raise awareness about the ill effects of Tobacco consumption and on the Universal Design of Learning (UDL) textbooks being developed by NCERT.

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