

(4) Helper who is appointed for a temporary period in order to substitute another helper on maternity leave will also be entitled for fixed remuneration of Rs. 10,540/- p.m. except for the months of summer vacation.

11. *Entitlements.*— (1) Helpers shall not be entitled for any type of leave except 16 days of casual leave and maternity leave of 180 days (Six months). This leave period shall be counted as paid days and the wages for the period shall be paid.

(2) All the discretionary holidays and the public holidays availed by the Pre-Primary Schools including those which fall during the period vacation will be paid holidays.

12. *The financial assistance to pre-primary helpers on retirement.*— The Pre-Primary Helpers who have or will be retiring at the age of 60 years from the Academic year 2015-16 and have rendered minimum 15 years of service under the Scheme shall be paid Rs. 1.50 lakhs (Rupees One lakh fifty thousand only) and if the service rendered is less than 15 years but not less than 10 years an amount of Rs. 75,000/- (Rupees Seventy five thousand only) shall be paid under this Scheme as a financial assistance. Pre-Primary Helpers shall not be entitled for any other pensionary benefits.

13. In case any member resigns before the date of retirement, such member shall not be eligible for benefits under this Scheme, however, if any member opts for compulsory retirement due to health/medical ground such member shall be paid pro-rata basis depending upon the number of years of service.

14. The D.D.E. of concerned Zone shall notify to the Director of Education all the details in respect of the Pre-primary Helpers atleast a month in advance to the retirement date. The Department shall settle the claim of the retired member as per the Scheme on or before the date of actual retirement through the D.D.E. of the concerned Zone.

15. The Department shall have power to undertake amendment or modification to the Scheme on approval of the Government.

16. This supersedes earlier Notification No. 43/30/98/Adm.II/1890 dated 07-03-2002.

Shailesh R. Sinai Zingde, Director of Education.

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Directorate of Higher Education

Notification

ACAD-II/MPGSS-2025/182/DHE/2025-26/10884

Date : 06-Mar-2026

The Government is pleased to notify the following scheme for the information of general public and shall come into force from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.

“Manohar Parrikar Goa Scholars Scheme, 2025”

I. *Short title & commencement.*— This scheme shall be called “Manohar Parrikar Goa Scholars Scheme-2025” and the same shall come into force on the date of publication of its notification in the Official Gazette. The Scheme will be reviewed after 3 years.

II. *Introduction.*— Goa has a large student population in the 18-35 years. To tap their potential and optimize the demographic dividend, they need to be encouraged and empowered to pursue a Post Graduate (PG) programme or Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in reputed institutions in India and abroad. The qualification, skill and experience they gain shall contribute towards building up human capital required by the state for its sustainable development. Therefore, to incentivise such talented, brilliant students, the present scheme has been framed and shall be implemented to achieve its objectives.

III. *Aims and objectives.*— 1. To promote the pursuit of post-graduate programmes and Doctorate of Philosophy by the talented younger population of Goa by recognising the meritorious and outstanding candidates.

2. To encourage students to take admission in reputed institutions in India and abroad, and to motivate them to take up cutting-edge research.

3. To enhance the effort of the State in promoting quality education, research, development, and innovation.

IV. *Eligibility conditions.*— 1. The age of the applicant for the Scheme shall not exceed 35 years as on 1st January of the year for which the Scheme is disbursed.

2. The applicant should be a resident of Goa for a minimum period of 15 years. However, if the applicant is of Goan origin who has a minimum period of 7 years of residence in Goa shall also be considered for the Scheme. The applicant who is of Goan origin shall submit the birth certificate of either of the parents/grandparents born in Goa.

3. The applicant must have passed the qualifying degree examination from an institution preferably located in Goa.

4. The applicant must have scored a minimum of 60% marks or equivalent grade in the qualifying degree examination along with a minimum 70% aggregate marks as per the criteria detailed at Clause IX of this scheme for shortlisting of the candidates.

5. The applicant must be a bonafide student of the institution (in which she/he is pursuing the Post Graduate/PhD programme) for the academic year for which the Scheme is announced. The applicant should provide the bonafide certificate issued by the institution of study at the time of application. The bonafide certificate should mention the name of the programme and the start and end date, for which the applicant has applied under the Scheme.

6. In case institution is listed in the QS/THE/NIRF ranking or has been accredited by NAAC for preceding two years of the academic year of study for which the applicant has applied for the Scheme, a certificate stating the rank/grade/position, issued by the institution of study shall be submitted at the time of application.

7. The applicant shall pursue a postgraduate programme or a Doctorate of Philosophy in any discipline.

8. Any form of canvassing and bringing political pressure shall disqualify the candidate out rightly.

V. *Number of Awards.*— 1. Every year, 40 outstanding Scholars shall be selected and awarded under the Manohar Parrikar Goa Scholar Scheme. However, in certain circumstances, for reasons to be recorded, more awards can be granted on the recommendation of the selection committee with the approval of the Government, provided the total number of awards shall not exceed 50.

2. The Award shall consist of a sum of INR 6,00,000/- for pursuing studies in India or INR 15,00,000/- for studies abroad. The disbursement shall be through Direct Benefit Transfer.

VI. *Application Procedure.*— 1. The Directorate of Higher Education shall announce the scheme in various local dailies as well as on the website of the Directorate of Higher Education.

2. Any applicant fulfilling the eligibility conditions may apply for the Scheme by filling and submitting the prescribed proforma on or before the last date announced by the Directorate of Higher Education.

3. All claims made by the applicant shall be supported by documentary evidences.

4. Updated Curriculum Vitae (CV) shall be submitted only by those applicants who are shortlisted for the interview.

5. A write-up of about 500 words stating “Why his/her name should be considered for the Manohar Parrikar Goa Scholars Scheme”? shall be submitted only by the applicants who are shortlisted for the interview. The write-up should very clearly chalk out her/his achievements and contributions to her/his educational institution, peers and the community at large. The write-up can also mention her/his plans and how she/he, with this higher degree, proposes to contribute towards the sustainable development of the State.

6. All applicants shall be issued a registration number. The registration number must be quoted in all subsequent correspondences.

7. Only the candidate whose application is complete in all respects shall be placed before the screening committee.

8. The screening committee shall recommend the list of eligible candidates as per the criteria laid down in Clause VIII, to be placed before the selection committee.

9. The last date for applying for this scheme shall be notified every year by the Directorate of Higher Education. The applicant should apply online in the prescribed proforma made available by the Directorate of Higher Education.

10. If the applicant has been selected for a course that involves deadlines with payment of fees and other charges, it shall be the responsibility of the applicant herself/himself to arrange adequate finance for meeting such deadlines.

VII. *Screening Committee.*— The State Government shall constitute a Screening Committee for shortlisting of candidates following the criteria laid down under Clause VIII of this scheme. The Committee will consist of the following members:

1. Chairperson shall be a well-known senior Academician.
2. Two members to be nominated by the Government.
3. The Director, Directorate of the Higher Education to be the Member Secretary.

VIII. *Criteria for shortlisting eligible candidates by Screening Committee.*— The Screening Committee shall shortlist the candidate on the following criteria:

1. The candidate shall be evaluated for shortlisting on a 100 point scale.
2. Only score/grades secured for curricular/academic achievements shall be considered for shortlisting the candidates.
3. Curricular/academic achievements shall be assigned 100 marks. Marks obtained by the candidate in the SSC (Standard X) examination shall be assigned 50% weightage, being a common exam, 30% weightage for the HSSC (Std. XII) examination and 20% weightage for the Graduation (Bachelor's degree) examination.

For calculating the percentage marks secured for graduation:

- a. Marks scored in all the semesters of the graduation course will be considered.
- b. In case of CGPA/FGPA, the conversion to percentage will be done using the formula $\text{Percentage} = (\text{CGPA/FGPA} - 0.75) \times 10$, if the document containing the conversion formula issued by the institute/university on letterhead is not provided by the candidate.
- c. In case of an integrated degree, the CGPA/FGPA only up to graduation shall be considered.
- d. In case of integrated programme with dual degree (graduation and masters), the final CGPA score will be considered.

e. In case of dual degree at undergraduate level, the highest CGPA will be considered, provided separate CGPAs are awarded for both the undergraduate programmes.

f. In case of an integrated dual degree, if the applicant is already pursuing the PG course, she/he shall not be entitled to apply under the Scheme for PG course.

4. No grace marks for NCC, NSS, Sports, and Cultural activities shall be considered while shortlisting eligible candidates.

5. The Screening Committee shall recommend the top 100 candidates with a minimum aggregate score of 70 marks after assigning the above weightages to their academic/curricular achievements for final selection/interview. For the 100th position, if more than one candidate secures the same marks, all those with the same marks will be called for the interview.

IX. *Selection Committee.*— The State Government shall constitute a Selection Committee for the final selection of candidates as per the criteria laid down under Clause X of the scheme. The Committee shall consist of the following members:

1. Chairperson shall be a well-known senior Academician of National/International Repute
2. Three Experts nominated by the Government with distinguished achievements in academic to be the Members
3. One Expert nominated by the Government from industry/administration to be the Member
4. The Secretary (Higher Education) or his/her Representative to be a Member
5. The Director, Directorate of Higher Education to be the Member Secretary.

X. *Criteria for selecting Goa Scholars.*— 1. The final Selection will be based on the following criteria:

- i. The selection shall be based on a 100-point/marks criterion.
- ii. Curricular/academic achievements as detailed in Clause VIII of the Scheme shall be assigned 45% weightage (i.e. 45% weightage shall be given to the aggregate marks obtained by the candidate based on his/her academic/curricular score as per Clause VIII of the scheme).
- iii. Extra-curricular/co-curricular achievements/activities shall be assigned 10% weightage (achievements in Sports/Cultural/other extra-curricular activities only at State, National and International levels shall be considered for this purpose).
- iv. The reputation of the institution in which the applicant has secured admission shall be assigned 15% weightage.
- v. The interview, either taken in person or through video conferencing, shall be assigned 30% weightage. Along with the domain knowledge, the Selection Committee shall also evaluate the personal qualities, confidence, positive attitude, creativity and innovativeness of the applicant. Due weightage shall also be given for the promise of effective service by the applicant to the State/Country/World in the decades ahead.

2. All the candidates appearing for the interview shall be ranked in the order of merit as per the above guidelines.

3. The Committee shall recommend the number and names of the candidates in order of merit for selection of Goa Scholars under the Manohar Parrikar Goa Scholar Scheme.

XI. *Higher Education Promotion Fund (HEPF).*— 1. A fund by the name of ‘Higher Education Promotion Fund’ (HEPF) has already been established by the Government. All award amounts sanctioned under this scheme shall be paid out of this fund. The Government will take steps to replenish the quantum of funds available with HEPF, from time to time.

2. The Directorate of Higher Education shall manage the Higher Education Promotion Fund (HEPF)

XII. *Framing of Guidelines.*— The Directorate of Higher Education may frame the guidelines as and when required for the effective implementation of this scheme.

XIII. *Pattern of Assistance.*— 1. The scheme shall be admissible to the beneficiary fulfilling the eligibility conditions and completing the application procedure as prescribed in the scheme.

2. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer shall draw the amount available for this purpose under the respective Budget Head at the beginning of the financial year and transfer the same to the Higher Education Promotion Fund for better management of the funds after due approval from the Administrative Secretary. The amount shall be debited to the Budget Head 2202—General Education; 03—University and Higher Education; 001—Direction and Administration; 03—Goa Scholar Scheme; 00—General; 34—Scholarships/Stipend under Demand No. 35.

3. The amount shall be drawn from the Directorate of Accounts on presenting the bill in the prescribed form by the Drawing and Disbursing Officer.

4. The Directorate shall maintain records about its transactions in such a form and such a manner as may be prescribed from time to time.

5. The amount shall be transferred into the bank account of the beneficiary, through direct transfer from the Higher Education Promotion Fund after due approval from the Government once the selection procedure is finalised and candidates are selected for the award.

6. The selected candidates shall furnish a pre-receipt for the amount sanctioned. The selected candidate will also submit a certificate from the bank stating the name of the account holder, account number, name of the bank, bank branch address, IFSC code and a statement that the account is Aadhaar-seeded.

XIV. *Relaxation.*— The Government shall be empowered to relax any or all clauses or conditions of this scheme for reasons to be recorded if it is deemed fit to further the spirit of the scheme.

XV. *Interpretation.*— If any question arises regarding the interpretation of any clause, word, or expression of the scheme, the decision about the interpretation shall be with the Government, which shall be final and binding on all concerned.

XVI. *Redressal of Grievances & Disputes.*— In case of any grievance arising out of the implementation of this scheme, the Administrative Secretary shall hear and decide such matters. No grievances shall be entertained after 90 days from the date of declaration of recommendation of the Selection Committee. The decision of the Administrative Secretary in this regard shall be final and binding on all concerned.

This issues with the concurrence of the Finance (Expenditure) Department vide their U.O. No. 1400198174 dated 10-02-2026.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Goa.

Santosh P. Naik, Under Secretary (Higher Education).

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