



**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR THE VISUALLY HANDICAPPED
(UNDER MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT, GOVT. OF INDIA)
116, RAJPUR ROAD, DEHRADUN (UTTARAKHAND)**

**INVITING PROPOSALS FROM THE STATE GOVERNMENTS/UT
ADMINISTRATIONS AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS RUNNING BRAILLE
PRESSES FOR ESTABLISHMENT/MODERNIZATION/CAPACITY
AUGMENTATION OF BRAILLE PRESSES**

The Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India vide its letter dated 25-11-2014 has approved a Central Sector Scheme of “Support for establishment/modernisation/capacity augmentation of Braille Presses”. Proposals alongwith relevant supporting documents has been invited from the State Govts /UT Administrations/ Registered Societies. The aforesaid letter and detailed scheme can be seen /downloaded from the website of the Department of Disabilities Affairs **socialjustice.nic.in** or NIVH website **www.nivh.gov.in**.

Interested State Governments/UT Administrations/Voluntary Organisations/Cooperative Societies having mandate of publishing books may submit the detailed proposals/applications along with relevant supporting documents duly recommended by the Principal Secretary/Secretary of the concerned Ministries/Departments of the State/UT “The Director, National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, 116, Rajpur Road, Dehradun - 248001(Uttarakhand)” on or before 31st December, 2014, Positively.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS

Central Sector Scheme of 'Support for establishment/modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille Presses'
(Effective from 2014-15)

1. Background

1.1 The mandate of the Constitution is to ensure equality, freedom, justice and dignity of all individuals, which implies an inclusive society for all, especially the disadvantaged. Article 41 of Part IV (“Directive Principles of State Policy”) which is particularly relevant with regard to persons with disabilities, reads as follows:-

“41 Right to work, to education and to public assistance in certain cases:

The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provision for securing the right to work to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of underserved want.”

1.2 The Central Government enacted The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act), 1995 which came into force with effect from 1st January, 1996. The Act is the basic legislation that deals with the rights and empowerment of persons with disabilities. Clause 27 (f) of Chapter V (Education) of the Act provides that the appropriate Governments and the local authorities shall by notification make schemes for providing every child with disability, free of cost special books and equipment needed for their education.

2. Objectives

2.1 The objectives of the scheme are:

(a) to establish 18 new Braille Presses in the States where strong organizations are already present;

- (b) to establish 03 small scale Braille printing units in UTs;
- (c) to modernise 12 old Braille Presses using traditional and low speed printing equipment; and
- (d) to augment Braille printing capacity of 03 modern Braille printing presses by adding printing infrastructure.

2.2 Criteria for selection of Braille presses for modernization and augmentation of printing capacity

(A) **Modernisation:** Braille Press established by the State Governments or registered societies or charitable trusts under Societies Registration Act, 1986 shall be modernized. The criteria of selection of Braille Presses for modernization shall be:

- (i) It has been in existence for more than five year;
- (ii) It has at least two small scale computerized Braille printers with minimum speed of printing 100 pages per hour or has an old Braille printing machine on which printing is done using Zinc plates;
- (iii) It has one Braille Press Manager, One Machine Operator, one Data Entry Operator and one Proof Reader on its strength and;
- (iv) It has proper system of maintaining an auditing of accounts.

(B) **Augmentation:** The Braille Presses established by the State Governments or a registered societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1986 or a charitable trust will be augmented. The criteria for selection of Braille Presses for augmentation of Braille printing capacity shall be :

- (i) It has successfully undertaken printing of school text books in Braille for at least five years;
- (ii) It has the experience to operate high speed Braille printers having minimum speed of printing 1200 Braille pages per hours;
- (iii) It has a separate building block or build area in which the Braille press is established;

(iv) It has additional built area of 400 sq. ft to install two additional high speed Braille printing machines;

(v) It has a team comprising at least two proof readers, two Braille Editors, two copy holders, two Data entry Operators and two Machine operators on its strength;

(vi) It has a proper arrangement for storage of paper, Braille books and spares o machines; and

(vii) It has a proper system of maintaining and auditing of accounts.

3. Implementing Agencies.

The implementing agencies of Scheme shall be state governments, UT administrations and voluntary organisations running Braille Presses for more than five years or any other establishment designated by the State Government or UT administration for running a Braille Press. The proposals from cooperative societies having mandate of publishing books etc. shall also be considered for implementation of scheme on merit if the response of the state governments/UTs and voluntary organizations is not found to be adequate.

(e) Implementation strategy

National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH) through Braille Council of India (BCI) shall be the nodal agency of the scheme that shall be entrusted with the following tasks:

- Issue advertisement in the newspapers as well as in its websites inviting proposals of establishment/modernisation/augmentation of Braille Presses and also sends letters to various states and UT governments inviting proposals/applications.
- Screening of applications.
- Technical evaluation of applications.

- Recommending improvements and additional inputs in the applications.
- Mentoring role in the entire process of establishing a new Braille press or augmenting capacity of an existing Braille press.

- Act as a monitoring body and submit regular reports in the prescribed format to the Government.

- The BCI to formulate guidelines for establishing Braille presses and a check list for preparing and processing the project proposals.

- BCI could also be tasked with feasibility study or evaluation study after receiving proposals from the applicant agencies on the pattern of inspection of agencies being conducted by RCI where special education and rehabilitation courses are proposed to be started.

- To process the applications and submit the same before the following Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment the states/UTs/implementing agencies for his/her approval for providing grant under the scheme for establishment/modernization/augmentation of Braille Presses:
 - (i) Joint Secretary (DD) - Chairman
 - (ii) Director, NIVH - Member
 - (iii) Representative of BCI - Member
 - (iv) Director (Finance), SJ&E- Member
 - (v) Concerned Director/DS - Member Convener

- To make recommendation to the Government for release of funds to the Braille Presses established/modernized/augmented under the scheme on the basis of number of Braille pages printed by such Braille Presses. NIVH shall also submit to the Government the relevant documents confirming production level of the Braille presses for which grant is recommended.

5% of the actual expenditure on the scheme shall be earmarked for various activities to be undertaken by NIVH or the BCI or its members.

4. Funding Pattern

4.1 The upper limit for non-recurring and recurring expenditure under the Scheme would be

			(RS. IN CRORE)
Item	Non-recurring	Recurring*	Total
Braille Press in State	2.60	1.00	3.60
Braille Press in UT	0.60	0.50	1.10
Modernization of Braille Press	2.00	1.00	3.00
Capacity Augmentation of Braille Press	1.75	0.75	2.50

***on yearly basis thereafter subject to production level.**

4.2 The recurring cost shall be verified based on overall number of pages printed by the Braille presses. The cost per page of Rs. 1.50 shall be used as a norm. Department of Disability Affairs would meet the Recurring and Non-recurring expenditure on the scheme for the remaining period of the 12th Five Year Plan (i.e. upto 2016-17). The concerned state governments/UTs will meet the recurring cost of the scheme beyond 2016-17.

4.3 The non-recurring cost on implementation of the scheme will be released in two equal installment i.e. the 50% of the total cost (non-recurring) as first installment in advance under the GRF norms and remaining 50% as Second installment after procurement, installation of software & hardware, other equipments and become functional of the Braille presses established / modernized / capacity augmented under the scheme. As regards the recurring expenditure the funds will be released quarterly.

4.4 Under the Scheme all students with visual impairment will be provided free of cost special books printed in the Braille presses established / modernized /capacity augmented under the scheme.

5. Implementation of scheme in 12th Five Year Plan

5.1 The scheme is to be implemented in phased manner during the remaining period of 12th Five Year Plan as under:

Item	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
18 Braille presses to be established in the states	Fifteen Braille presses	One Braille presses	Two Braille presses
03 Braille printing units to be established in UT	One Printing Unit	One Printing Unit	One Printing Unit
12 Braille presses to be modernised	Ten Braille Press	One Braille Press	One Braille Press
03 Braille presses to be augmented	One Braille Press	One Braille Press	One Braille Press