

File No: SAK-15011/5/2021-SAK-MoMA
Government of India
Ministry of Minority Affairs

Pt. Deendayal Upadhaya Antyodaya Bhawan
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road
New Delhi - 110003

Date the 21st June, 2021

To

PIAs implementing "Seekho aur Kamao" Scheme

Sub: Implementation of Seekho aur Kamao (SAK) Scheme - Opening of
One dedicated non-interest bearing bank account to implement Project

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to draw the attention of the Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) towards the following provisions contained in Appendix to "Seekho Aur Kamao Scheme revised guidelines" and Rule 22 of General Financial Rules (GFR) 2017, which reads as under:

"7. That the organization shall maintain a separate account in a nationalized/scheduled Bank in respect of this grant. All receipts and payments involving Rs.10,000/- and above of the grantee institution must be through cheques only. The grantee institutions are required to submit at the time of seeking grant for continuation of the project, a copy of the bank passbook indicating all transactions made in connection with the running of the sanctioned project. The accounts will remain open for inspection by representatives/officers from the Ministry, office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India, or concerned State Government at any time. The organization shall have the account of the grant-in-aid audited either by CAG empanelled Auditors or Chartered Accountant and supply a copy of the audited accounts, together with Utilisation Certificate in GFR 12(A), to the Ministry latest by first week of June month every year."

"26. The organization shall abide by all the aforesaid terms & conditions, guidelines of the scheme, provisions of GFRs, and any subsequent revision/changes therein."

"Rule 22 -Expenditure from Public Funds. No authority may incur any expenditure or enter into any liability involving expenditure or transfer of moneys for investment or deposit from public funds (Consolidated Fund / Contingency Fund and the Public Accounts) unless the same has been sanctioned by a competent authority."

2. Whereas, the PIAs have to abide by all the terms & conditions as per the MOU signed with the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

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3. However, while processing the cases for disbursement of grants, it has been observed that some of the PIAs are not implementing the scheme through one dedicated Bank account for the allocated project, as stipulated in SAK guidelines/provisions under GFR and; found using multiple banks accounts. They give one bank account at the time of receiving grants and transfer the grant into another Bank account(s) at their convenience on inadequate/unacceptable grounds. PIAs carry out transactions at their will from one account or other(s). Normally, they transfer Government Grant in the bank account having Auto Sweep Facility and/or make Fixed Deposit/Term Deposit. The interest earned from grant in most of the cases does not reflect in the Utilization Certificate (UC) and Audited Statement of Accounts. This violates the basic principle of financial propriety that is Government money cannot be a source of profit. The violation by PIAs has been viewed very seriously by Ministry and is not at all acceptable.

4. In the above background, it has been decided with the approval of competent authority that PIA shall open one dedicated non-interest-bearing bank account for a Project and all transactions/payments should be made from that account only. That bank account must be linked with PFMS. Henceforth, no excuse/reason for maintaining more than one bank account to implementing the Seekho aur Kamao Scheme would be entertained under any circumstances.

5. PIAs may please note that any violation to the above directions may lead to cancellation of their allotment/empanelment under this Ministry's Schemes, under intimation to NITI Aayog to take further action for cancellation of their registration from NGO Darpan. Thus, all Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) are advised to follow above guidelines scrupulously in their own interest.

6. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Vikas Mohan)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

- i. PS to Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser (MA)
- ii. PPS to Joint Secretary (Skills)
- iii. DS(Skills)/DS(Finance)
- iv. Seekho aur Kamao (SAK) Portal
- v. NIC, Ministry of Minority Affairs with the request to upload this on the Ministry web site.