SUPPORTED GUARDIANSHIP SCHEME & GUIDELINES

Introduction:

In India, a large number of disabled persons, both in urban and rural areas, are living below the poverty line (BPL). Most parents do take the full responsibility of their disabled children. However, when there is no property to bequeath by parents on their death, other relatives and friends may not be willing to take on the onerous responsibility of being a Legal guardian to a disabled child who is orphaned and destitute. Such persons roam the streets in poverty and are subjected to abject poverty, abuse and neglect. Since legal guardianship is a major objective of the National Trust, and is seen as a means of securing the future of disabled persons, this vacuum needs to be addressed. Therefore, a guardian who is willing and is approved by the Local Level Committee (LLC) may be supported with limited financial support for the upkeep of the disabled person. The scheme of Supported Guardianship will provide encouragement to those relatives/friends who are willing but unable (financially) to look after their disabled wards. The scheme has also been visualized keeping in mind the very high costs of institutional care in which the cost of construction, maintenance and personnel become the main part of the total budget.

2. Objective

The main objective of the scheme is to provide financial security to severely disabled persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities who are destitute and abandoned, by supporting the cost of guardianship for the above-mentioned group within their own communities.

3. Eligibility

Financial assistance will be provided to the, legal guardians of destitute and abandoned persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities for their upkeep. The disabled person should be from below the poverty line. The disabled persons should hold disability certificate as per definition under PWD Act, 1995.

Preference will be given to the following categories of persons.

1. Disabled persons whose parent(s) is/not alive.
2. Persons with severe disabilities
3. Women with disability
4. Senior citizens with disability
5. Disabled persons who cannot be placed in employment

(236)
4- **Selection of Beneficiaries**

Eligible guardians may apply with the Local Level Committees in the prescribed proforma (Form SGS 1). Selection of beneficiaries will be done by LLCs in consultation with DDRC/DRO/District Level Officer wherever appropriate from amongst the applicants whose application have been received complete in all respect.

5- **Utilization**: This amount will be utilized for basic needs of food, shelter, medical treatment of the disabled wards.

6- **Implementation**

The beneficiaries under the scheme will be selected by the Local Level Committees. Preferences will be given to women with disabilities, sincerely disabled and senior citizens with disability as per definition under Section 2(a), (c), (g), (h) & (j) of National Trust Act. The fund will be released on a half yearly basis to the Local Level Committee based on their applications for assistance from the Target Group. The District Magistrate will sign under his hand the rquests for the District. The disbursement of financial assistance to the Guardians will be made by 10th of every month.

7- **Convergence with DDRC**

Wherever possible, the DDRC personnel will assess the needs of the disabled persons and recommend his/ her name to the LLC. The LLC will monitor the appropriate utilisation of funds and the DDRC track the growth and development of the disabled person.

8- **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The Local Level Committees will utilize the services of village level field worker/officials of DDRC for checking on the well being of the disabled person. The LLCs will submit quarterly performance reports and annual evaluation reports to the National Trust. To ensure poor medical care for the beneficiary, out of total assistance of Rs. 500 per month, at least Rs. 150 would be spent on medical expenses/care of the beneficiary and this would be verified by the DDRC/LLC and reported in their quarterly/annual reports.

9- **Total financial commitment for 2 years**

i. Guardianship assistance of Rs. 500/- per month for 10 beneficiaries per District for 12 months will be provided.

ii. Initially, the scheme will be implemented in 75 districts.

Total budget: Rs 500 x 12 Months x 10 Persons x 75 districts = Rs. 45, 00, 000/-
GUIDELINES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUPPORTED GUARDIANSHIP SCHEME OF THE NATIONAL TRUST (SGS)

INTRODUCTION

In India, a large number of disabled persons, both in urban and rural areas, are living below the poverty line (BPL). Most parents do take the full responsibility of their disabled children. However, when there is no property to bequeath by parents on their death, other relatives and friends may not be willing to take on the onerous responsibility of being a Legal Guardian to a disabled child who is orphaned and destitute. Such persons are subjected to object poverty, abuse and neglect. Since Legal Guardianship is a major objective of the National Trust, and is seen as a means of securing the future of disabled persons, this vacuum needs to be addressed. Therefore, a guardian who is willing and is approved by the Local Level Committee (LLC) may be supported with limited financial support for the upkeep of the disabled person. The scheme of supported Guardianship will provide encouragement to those relatives/friends who are willing but unable (financially) to look after their disabled wards. The scheme has also been visualized keeping in mind the very high costs of institutional care in which the cost of construction, maintenance and personnel become the main part of the total budget.

- This (Supported Guardianship Scheme or SGS) is a pilot project for 3 years.
- The Supported Guardianship Scheme will be implemented only in 75 districts of 26 States and 1 Union Territory during this pilot period. (as per the list attached)
- The Nodal Agency will be the Local Level Committee, in collaboration with DDRC. where applicable.
- Target group: Only Legal Guardians of destitute & abandoned persons who are diagnosed as having Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation & Multiple Disabilities, are eligible.
- SGS will be given to a maximum of 10 persons with disability in each of the 75 Districts listed.

2- OBJECTIVE: The main objective of the scheme is to provide financial security to severely disabled persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities who are destitute and/or abandoned, by supporting the cost of guardianship for the abovementioned group within their own communities.

3- ELIGIBILITY : The four overriding requirements of eligibility are:
   i  The person with disability (applicant’s ward) must be orphaned and/or abandoned/ destitute;
   ii He must belong to BPL economic category;
iii. He mustk a disability certificate as pe definition under the PWD Act 1995;

&

iv. The applicant must be a Legal Guardian appointed by the LLC under Section 14 of the National Trust Act, 1999.

If more than 10 applicants fulfill the above eligibility criteria then preference should be given to the following categories in descending order of priority

a) Legal Guardians of persons with severe disabilities.

b) Legal Guardians of Women with disability

c) Legal Guardians of Senior Citizens with disability.

d) Legal Guardian of Disabled persons who cannot be placed in any kind of employment.

4- SELECTION OF BENEFICIARIES: Eligible guardians may apply to the Local Level Committees in the prescribed proforma (form SGS-1). Selection of beneficiaries will be done by LLCs in consultation with DDRC/DRO/District Level Officers wherever appropriate from amongst the applicants whose applications have been received and are complete in all respects. The sanction letter (as per form SGS-2) will be signed by all the three members of the LLC.

5- UTILIZATION Out of a total of Rs. 500 per month, Rs. 350/- will be utilized for basic needs of food, clothing, shelter. For the medical and rehabilitation treatment of the disabled wards, Rs. 150/- will be given on production of appropriate vouchers, bills, etc.

IMPLEMENTATION

i. The Local Level Committee should constitute an Implementation Committee comprising all its 3 members, representative of DDRC (wherever in existence), Chief Medical Officer Social Welfare Officer who may also be the Convener, or any other person deemed desirable.

ii. The Implementation Committee shall meet twice within the first 3 months, once for deciding procedures & second time for selection of beneficiaries. List of selected beneficiaries are to be notified to the National Trust Headquarters. Thereafter, the Committee will meet once every 6 months.

iii. Wide publicity is to be given to the Scheme through low cost pamphlets, fliers and posters Support of NGOs, grass-root level workers, Panchayats and Government Officers may be taken. The copies of the Scheme and application forms may be printed in the vernacular language for the convenience of the local population.

iv. The notice of the scheme should clearly indicate place of availability of application from last date of receipt of forms, number of projected beneficiaries & eligibility criteria.

(239)
[NOTE :- If the scheme is not implemented within 60 days, it stands withdrawn. The same amount will be allocated to another district]

v. Proper arrangement for receipt of application forms are to be made. All applications shall be acknowledged and recorded in a Register and files maintained for each block in the District.

vi. All applications shall be submitted to the Implementation Committee for selection of the beneficiaries. The Implementation Committee may at its discretion call the persons With disability along with the Legal Guardian/Applicant for personal interviews before sanctioning the financial assistance.

vii. Separate account under SGS head is to be opened & maintained by Local Level Committee. The account shall be operated by at least two signatories, one of them being District Magistrate / District Collector.

viii. Disbursal of money should be made on or before the 10th of every month by sending a cheque or draft to the saving accounts of the beneficiary.

ix. Initially, the LLC will send a list of selected beneficiaries along with photos to the National Trust headquarters.

x. Thereafter, annual reports by the LLC will be sent to the National Trust Headquarters. The funds will be released by the National Trust on a half yearly basis to the Local Level Committee based on the applications for assistance from the Target Group. The District Magistrate will sign under his hand the requests for the District.

CONVERGENCE WITH DDRC: Wherever possible, the DDRC personnel will assess the needs of the disabled persons and recommend his/her name to the LLC.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION The LLC will monitor the appropriate utilization of funds and the NGO member or the DDRC will track the growth and development of the disabled person.

Legal Guardians must bring their wards for assessment of growth indicators to the DDRC or the NGO member of the LLC every 6 months without fail, on a fixed frequency basis (say, every 20th January and every 20th August) from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon.

If there is no visible improvement in the disabled persons, the Local Level Committee may recommend withdrawal of support after one notice to the Legal Guardian.

ii. Height, weight, motor development, mental development, general physical appearance, cleanliness, social/adaptive behavior, etc. (as per attached chart in form SGS-3), to be measured by the NGO member of the LLC or the local DDRC.
APPLICATION FOR THE FINACIAL ASSISTANCE
UNDER THE SUPPORTED GUARDIANSHIP SCHEME
OF THE NATIONAL TRUST

PHOTOGRAPH
OF THE
BENEFICIARY

PHOTOGRAPH
OF THE
LEGAL GUARDIAN

1. Name of the person with Disability (Wards)
2. Fathers Name and Address
3. Occupation of the Father
4. Age of the Person with Disability
5. Gender of the Person with Disability
6. Category of Disability (Tick the relevant category)
   a) Autism    b) Cerebral Palsy    c) Mental Retardation
7. Severity Level (Tick as appropriate) a) Mild    b) Moderate    c) Severe
8. Family Income kper month
9. No. of members in the family
10. Whether Parents are alive a) Yes    b) No
II. Whether any property is owned by the Disabled Person
   (Tick the relevant column) a) Yes    b) No
12. If Yes, Give details of the said property
13. Name of the Applicant/Guardian/Legal Guardian:
14. Whether applicant is a natural and/or Legal Guardian
15. Address of the Legal Guardian and the Ward

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEGAL GUARDIAN</th>
<th>WARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(241)
16. Age of the Legal Guardian
17. Occupation of the Legal Guardian
18. Relationship with the Ward
19. Number of Family Members of the Legal Guardian:
20. If any other person in the family is disabled
21. Average monthly income of the Legal Guardian
22. Whether any criminal case against the applicant is pending or finalized in the police station or any court (Tick the relevant column) 
   a) Yes  
   b) No  
23. If Yes, give the detail of the case.
24. Enclosures
   a) Copy of Income Certificate of Legal Guardian
   b) Copy of Ration Card, if any
   c) Copy of Legal Guardianship under National Trust (Form C)

(Signature of the applicant)
(Signature of the Second Witness)

Date:
Place:
Witnesses:

(Signature of the first witness)

To be filled in by the Recommending Authority:

1. It is certified that information given as above is correct.
2. I recommend this case for consideration of the Financial Assistance under the Supported Guardianship Scheme of the National Trust.

(Signature and Seal of the Recommending Authority)

Date:
Place:

(242)
SANCTION LETTER OF SUPPORTED GUARDIANSHIP

This is to certify that Master/ Miss/ Shri/ Smt. .......................................................... S/O or D/O Shri/ Smt. ..........................................................
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….. (whose Legal Guardian is Shri/ Smt. ..........................)
……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………….. residing at ..........................................................
Village ................................................................................................ Block ..................................................................
District ................................................................................................ ............................................................

is hereby sanctioned its 350/- per month under the Supported Guardianship Scheme on National Trust, Govt. of India from ..........................................................
to .......................................................................................................................

This scheme is valid for 3 years only.

Additional amount of Rs. 150/- per month will be paid on producing vouchers/bills towards medical and rehabilitation expenses.

Signed

District Collector........................................................................
NGO Member of the LLC........................................
Disabled person of the LLC.......................................  

Complaints about non-receipt or difficulties in receipt of funds under this scheme may be sent directly to National Trust, 4, Vishnu Digamber Marg, IPH Complex, Room No. 208, New Delhi. 2. Telephone No. 23217413 Tel; eFax: 23217414. Email : nationaltrust@ren02.nic.in

Monitoring Chart

<p>| | | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-</td>
<td>Name of Person with Disability</td>
<td>2-</td>
<td>Age</td>
<td>3-</td>
<td>Sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-</td>
<td>Type of Disability</td>
<td>5-</td>
<td>Severity Level</td>
<td>6-</td>
<td>Growth Chart</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date for Entry</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Motor Age</th>
<th>Mental Age</th>
<th>General Appearance</th>
<th>Adaptive Skills</th>
<th>Other remarks of Assessor</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- To be signed by NGO member of LLC or the In charge, DDRC
- Assessment should be done every 6 months without fail.
- Disbursements will depend on the indications of growth & development the beneficiary.