3. Target Groups: School going children belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes & Other Backward Classes communities whose total family income does not exceed rupees one lakh twenty thousand per annum.

4. Conditions of Eligibility: (i) The applicant should be a bonafide resident of the State of Goa.

(ii) The applicant should be a regular student of an institution.

(iii) The combined income of the parents/guardians of the applicant should not exceed Rupees 1,20,000/- per annum.

(iv) The applicant is not residing and receiving any maintenance grant in any institution under the vernment or local bodies or private organizations receiving grants-in-aid from local or the Central Government.

(v) The applicant will not be eligible to receive stipends or scholarships from any other source.

(vi) The applicant should belong to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes & Other Backward Classes as defined in para 2 above.

(vii) The student shall not be eligible twice to receive the award of stipends in the same standard.

5. Rates and mode of payment of stipends:— (i) The eligible student will be paid the stipend at the following rates:

(a) 1st to IV class—Rs. 175/- per month
(b) Vth to VIII class—Rs. 225/- per month
(c) IXth to Xth class—Rs. 275/- per month

(ii) The stipends of the above rates will be given for the academic year. The Head of the Institution shall cause the amount of stipend to the concerned students against receipt.

6. Mode of applying:— The applications for the stipends under this scheme shall be made in the prescribed form (Appendix-I). The application should be sent to the Director of Social Welfare within the said time as may be specified from time to time. Each application shall be accompanied by the following documents:

(a) Certificate issued by Sub Divisional Magistrate to the effect that the applicant belongs to a Caste, Scheduled Tribes & Other Backward Classes (at the time of first admission in the school).

(b) Income Certificate issued by the concerned Secretaries of the Village Panchayat attested by the revenue Sarpanch and countersigned by the Block Development Officer or issued by the MUNICIPALITY or any other competent authority prescribed for the issue of income certificate by the relevant Government.

7. Release of amount:— (i) The applications so received shall be scrutinized by the Director of Social Welfare.

(ii) The Director shall be the sanctioning authority under these rules and his decision as regards the sanction or rejection of award shall be final.

(iii) Amount will be released through the respective educational institution in 2 equal installments. The 1st installment will be released along with sanction order and the 2nd installment will be released in the month of November on receiving certificate from the Principal of the institution that the student is having residence in the school.

8. Renewal of stipend:— The student who is entitled in the school will continue to be entitled to