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ONGC Scholarship to Meritorious SC/ST, OBC and General/EWS Category Students

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OIL AND NATURAL GAS CORPORATION FOUNDATION

ONGC Foundation was established in 2014 with the aim of transforming the lives of underprivileged communities through focused Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. It works in collaboration with government bodies, NGOs, and community-based organizations to bring about inclusive growth and sustainable development. The Foundation implements projects in areas such as health, education, livelihood, and environment, especially in ONGC's operational regions and aspirational districts. Some of its key initiatives include the ONGC Scholarship Scheme, Su Ka Pha Hospital, ONGC Community Schools, and the 75 Anganwadi Project aimed at improving child health and development. It has also distributed 75,000 Deskits to promote quality education and launched the Swachhata Fellowship to engage youth in addressing sanitation challenges. Under the India@75 campaign, the Foundation has worked to uplift traditional handicrafts and support artisans. Through initiatives like the CSR Day - Social Impact Summit & Exhibition, ONGC Foundation continues to showcase and scale its impactful work across the country, staying committed to its vision of improving lives and ensuring long-term community welfare.



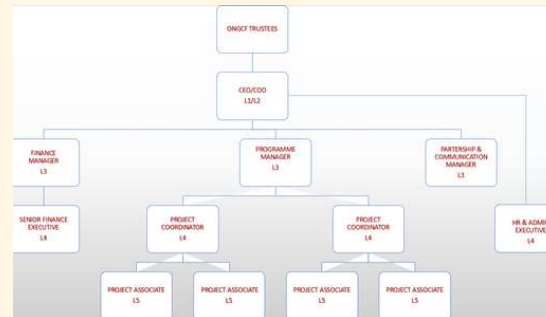
VISION

We envision a sustainable world where the deprived sections of our society are transformed and empowered to lead a quality life with dignity.

MISSION

To be a leader in the social sector; collaborating with governments, NGOs, and other developmental agencies in our national resolve to achieve the country-specific development priorities and SDGs by 2030.





OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

- Provide financial assistance to meritorious students from SC/ST, OBC, and General/EWS categories pursuing professional courses like Engineering, MBBS, MBA, and Geology/Geophysics.
- Promote inclusive and equitable education by encouraging higher education among underprivileged students, with 50% scholarships reserved for female candidates.
- Support economically weaker sections, with special preference to BPL families, to foster social upliftment through education.
- Encourage academic excellence and ethical conduct, ensuring scholarship renewal based on performance, while reinforcing ONGC's CSR commitment in education.

LEARNINGS

- **Data Handling Skills**
Gained experience in managing large Excel sheets, organizing data, and identifying errors.
- **Improved Communication**
Developed confidence in communicating with team members and coordinating across departments.
- **Team Collaboration**
Experienced working as part of a professional team, sharing responsibilities and meeting common goals.
- **Professional Etiquette**
Understood the importance of punctuality, following formal communication channels, and maintaining records.

THEORETICAL	PRACTICAL
Classroom-based, structured modules in development theories and tools.	Hands-on experience with real-world problems and operational tasks.
Developing skills in research methodologies, data analysis, and strategic planning.	Real-world challenges such as document discrepancies, coordination with officials, and on-ground limitations were experienced.
Understanding the broader context of management, and policy making through lectureship academic discussions.	Use of Excel and real documents for data verification and tracking.

SUGGESTIONS

- **Develop a centralized project management application:** Centralized digital platform to manage and track all project data, reducing reliance on physical files and improving transparency and accessibility.
- **Enhance monitoring and evaluation systems:** Introducing digital dashboards or regular progress tracking tools would help identify gaps or project delays early and support better decision-making.

STRENGTH	WEAKNESS
• Inclusive Distribution: Covers SC/ST, OBC, and General/EWS categories with a fair allocation (50% reserved for female students). • Transparent Selection Process: Merit-based selection with clear eligibility and verification steps. • Substantial Financial Support: ₹48,000 per annum (₹4,000/month) is a meaningful amount to support academic expenses.	• Courses are very specific: Limited to a narrow set of disciplines—Engineering, MBBS, MBA, Geology/Geophysics—excluding many deserving streams like Arts, Commerce, Social Sciences, etc. • Awareness decline in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities: Many eligible students in rural or semi-urban areas remain unaware of the scheme, limiting its reach and impact. • Offline process is time-consuming: Despite the digital application, hard copy submission is still required, adding friction to access.
OPPORTUNITIES	THREATS
• Digital Integration: Moving the entire process online (including verification and submission) could increase accessibility and efficiency. • Expansion of Scope: Introducing mentorship or skill development components along with financial aid can further enhance impact. • Partnerships with Institutes: Collaboration with educational institutions can help improve awareness and ease of application.	• Verification Delays: Physical verification and document issues could delay scholarship disbursement. • Dropouts Due to Complexity: Some eligible students might not apply due to the complicated process or documentation issues. • Limited Seats: Only 2000+ scholarships for a vast number of potential applicants means many deserving students may miss out.

CHALLENGES

- **Technical Limitations**
Some systems or portals were slow or had limited functionality, making data sorting and checking more time-consuming.
- **Document Discrepancies**
Many student documents had errors or mismatches, especially in names and bank details, which delayed the verification process.
- **Learning Curve**
Initially understanding the scholarship process and documentation format took time and required active guidance.