



Government of India
Ministry of Human Resource Development

Announces 'Gurutsav 2014'

Teachers have played a pivotal role in shaping and moulding our lives and enabling us to develop as citizens of the 21st Century. The MHRD acknowledges and appreciates the seminal role played by teachers. 5th September, the day when one of the greatest teachers Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born, is the day when we together express our solidarity with the teaching community and celebrate the excellence of teachers.

This year, in order to combine the voice of the entire student community in thanking their teachers, the MHRD has decided to organize an Essay Writing Competition for gratefully acknowledging the role teachers play in our lives.

The Ministry strongly feels that today's generation should find a voice in remembering the selfless services of the teachers who play a vital role in shaping future generations.

The Ministry, therefore, announces an Essay Writing Competition, and invites entries from the students to share inspiring stories about their teachers. This Competition will be conducted on **1st September 2014**. **The entries are invited in English and all the 22 Scheduled Languages. (Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithali and Dogri)**. A practice round will be conducted on **29th & 30th August** to acquaint participants with the process. The competition round will be held on the **1st September, 2014**. Winners will be announced on the **3rd September 2014** and felicitated on **5th September 2014 at Delhi**.

This activity will be conducted in online/offline mode. The topic of the essay will be announced on the website / sent as a text message/IVRS half an hour before the scheduled start time of the competition. There are **three** modes of participation. Those participating through online mode can directly key-in their responses through the link "**Announcement of Essay Writing Competition - Gurutsav 2014**" available on <http://mhrd.gov.in/>. This activity can also be conducted offline by the schools and the entries can be sent through mail to ministryhrd1@gmail.com. The entries can also be sent using mobile. Refer to guidelines given in **Annexure-I-III** for further details.

There will be **three** categories i.e. for Classes I-V, VI-VIII and IX-XII. The categories will represent girls, boys and differently abled girls and boys. In all, four winners will be chosen from each state/UT. Each of the best entries will get a chance to win a prize of Rs. 5,000.

Classes I-V & Visually impaired

For classes I-V and for visually impaired students, a 2 minute audio/video recording may be sent either by email or by uploading on mobile within an hour of announcement of the Essay topic.

Classes VI-VIII

Students of classes VI-VIII will write a 500 word essay in 1 hour (1 hour and 30 minutes for differently abled; they may also use amanuenses if needed).

Classes IX - XII

Students of classes IX – XII will write a 1000 word essay in 1 hour and 30 minutes (2 hours for differently abled; the differently abled students may also use amanuenses, if needed).

The topic of Essay Writing Competition will be announced half an hour before the scheduled time of start of the Competition.

Prior Registration, open from 27th -29th August 2014, is compulsory for this activity. Registration can be done in the following ways:-

1. Using internet application by clicking on the link “**Registration for Essay Writing Competition - Gurutsav**” and following instructions thereafter.
2. Giving a missed call at (9015910123) and following instructions thereafter.
3. Calling a toll free no. (18002005188) and following instructions thereafter.

Schools can also register students in bulk by following any one of the above ways/modes using single Mobile No./Email-id. However, in such a case a maximum of 30 students (10 from each category) can be registered using single Email-id/Mobile No.

It is not merely a competitive activity but will also provide a platform to enable the entire nation to pay rich gratitude to the entire teaching community. Social media like Facebook and Twitter will be extensively used to popularize the submitted entries and also for commenting on the tentative winning entries through peer comments especially to check plagiarism.

Participants are also advised to visit the link “Announcement of Essay Writing Competition - Gurutsav 2014” on website <http://mhrd.gov.in> for regular updates. Please contact 011-23211575 for any further queries.

Encl : Annexure I, II and III.

Guidelines

A. General	Registration	Participation & Sending Entries
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students from any recognised school in India can participate in the competition. 2. Certificate of merit and prizes will be given to the best four entries – one each for boys, girls and differently abled boys and girls, under each category from each State/Union Territory. 3. The participants should register themselves during 27th - 29th August beginning 10.00 hrs. Registration can be done either by online form or by giving a missed call at (9015910123) or by calling toll free no. (18002005188). Unregistered students will not be allowed to participate. A school can also register through bulk registration facility a maximum of 30 students, through its common email-id/mobile number. 4. The entries can be typed or neatly written. 5. In case of hand written entries, the scanned copy/ image of the entry should be sent through mail to ministryhrd1@gmail.com uploaded / sent through Whatsapp. 6. For classes I-V, and for visually impaired students, audio/video of not more than 2 minute duration can be sent either through the email as an attachment to ministryhrd1@gmail.com or through Whatsapp to 07042745234. 7. The entries for students other than those at sl. No. 6 above, shall be uploaded through the link provided in the circular / sent as an email attachment to ministryhrd1@gmail.com / sent through Whatsapp to 07042745234. 8. In case of the entries sent by email please mention the following details in the subject line: Name of Participant, Registration No., Language of Essay, Gender (Male/Female), Father's/Guardian's Name, Class, School Name, District, State, Category (SC/ST/OBC/Gen), Whether family income less than Rs 6,00,000/-, Whether differently abled and Mobile Number. If this information is not provided in the subject line the application will be summarily rejected. 9. The entries can be sent in English or any of the 22 Scheduled Languages (<i>Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithali and Dogri</i>). 	

B. Schedule

1. The practice session will be held on the 29th & 30th August, 2014 between 9:30-10:30 AM on the topic to be announced half an hour before the appointed time i.e. at 9:00 AM.
2. The open competition will begin on Monday, the 1st of September, 2014. Topic will be announced at 9:00 AM on the link "Essay Writing Competition – Gurutsav, 2014" available at the MHRD website. Topic will also be announced at 9:00 A.M. by sending text messages / IVRS at the registered mobile numbers.
3. Submission of the entries shall be open for fixed duration as per the schedule given at the Annexure II.
4. The winners shall be announced on 3rd of September 2014.

C. Quality

1. The entries should not exceed the word limit as mentioned.
2. The entries/ writings must be **original**.
3. The principals need to ensure that the entries being submitted by the students are **not plagiarized**. If at any stage the entries submitted are proven to be plagiarized, the prize will be withdrawn.
4. Students can refer to as many resources as they can avail, however the entries submitted must be in their **own language**.
5. Provisionally selected essays will be open to public to comment on plagiarism, if any, between 3rd-4th September.
6. Final entries shall be selected by a panel of experts.
7. No further communication will be entertained on the selected essays.
8. Plagiarism, if detected at any point of time, will lead to disqualification of the student/withdrawal of the prize.

D. For the students

1. You need to think a lot about your teacher/s. The essay you write must be related to a real teacher who has taught/coached/mentored/counselled you in school.
2. You need to make your notes before writing the essay, as you will have only 30 minutes before writing the task.
3. Focus on the writing task and stick to the word limit.
4. The window will be open only for a certain period of time so do not waste time on collecting more material.
5. Your understanding, point of view and evidence to support the same is more important than facts and dense information.

Schedule

Practice Session: 29th & 30th August 2014 - 09.30AM to 10.30 AM

1st September 2014 :

Classes I -V and for visually impaired students: 09.30 AM, and a 2 minute audio/video recording to be sent by 10.30 A.M. Recording to begin by stating the Registration Number first.

Classes VI-VIII : 09.30 AM -10.30 AM (Maximum 500 words) (Differently abled- 09.30-11:00 AM, they may use amanuenses, if needed).

Classes IX-XII: 09:30 AM - 11:00 AM (Maximum 1000 words) (Differently abled- 09-30-11.30, they may use amanuenses, if needed).

Note:

1. Topics will be posted each day at 09:00 am on the link 'Essay Writing Competition-Gurutsav-2014' at MHRD website <http://mhrd.gov.in/>. Topic will also be sent at 9:00 AM through text message/IVRS at the registered mobile numbers.
2. Submission window will close on each day exactly at the time mentioned above; no entry will be accepted thereafter.
3. All times indicated above are in IST.
4. The time duration indicated above is the total available time, including the time taken to submit responses.
5. In case of responses submitted by E-mail or Whatsapp, 30 minutes extra time will be permissible. In such cases, same email or mobile number is to be used for sending entries as was used for Registration.
6. In case of bulk responses submitted by the E-mail/Mobile Number of the school, the school must send total number of entries being sent by it within 5 minutes of the close of competition. Thereafter, it can e-mail to ministryhrd1@gmail.com / send by Whatsapp the entries in next 30 minutes. In such a case, a maximum of only 30 entries from one school email-id/mobile number will be allowed. In this case, the bulk registration should have been done by the school using its mail id/mobile number, mentioning names of the students.

Procedure for registration

1) Using internet application

(Available from 27th to 29th August 10:00 A.M. onwards)

Type <http://mhrd.gov.in/> in your browser

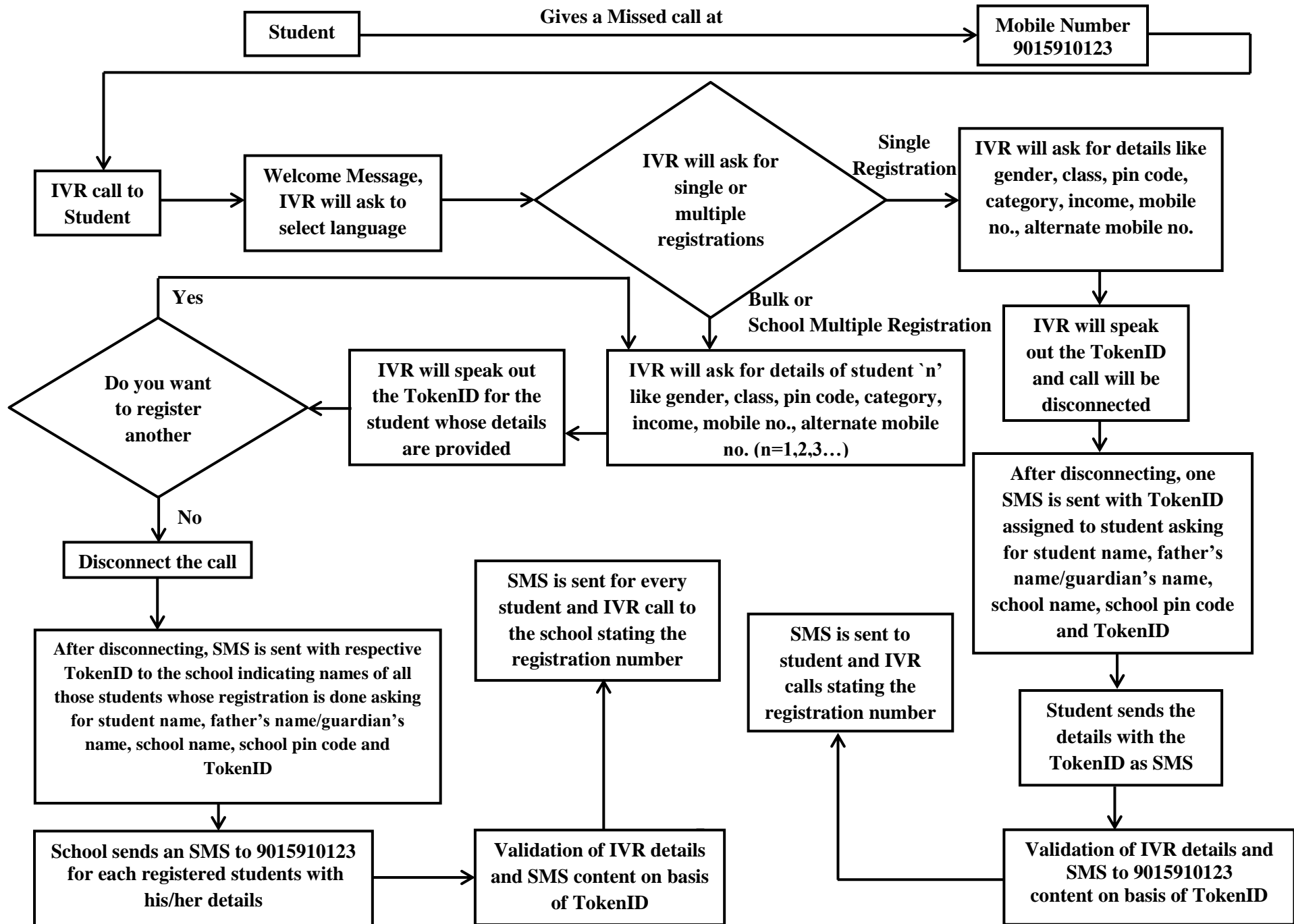
Click on the link "Announcement of Essay Writing Competition - Gurutsav-2014". On the following web page, click on "MHRD Announces Gurutsav" to familiarise yourself with the guidelines. After reading the guidelines click on "Registration for essay writing competition - Gurutsav"

On the available internet form the student will record/write his/her details as follows:
Candidate Name, Gender, Father's/Guardian Name, Mother's Name, Category ,
Whether differently abled, Whether annual family income less than Rs 6,00,000, Class,
School Name, School Address, District, State, Pin code, Name of the Principal, School's Contact
Number, Mobile Number of Principal, Mobile Number of Parent, Student's Email,
School's Email, Essay language, Mother tongue,
Name of board to which your school is affiliated

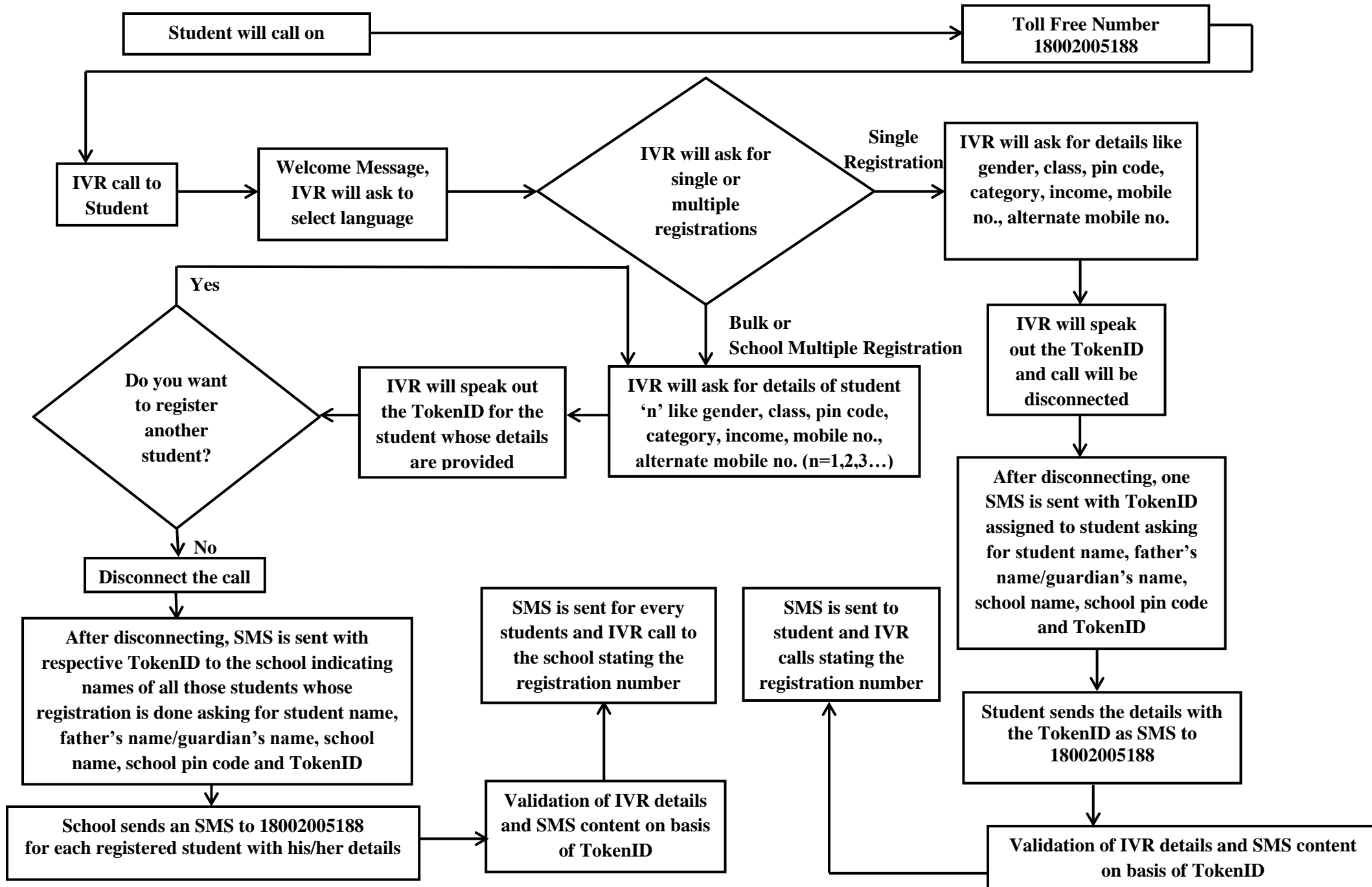
Bulk registration facility is available for the schools. Schools can register as many as 30 students by clicking on the option "Register Another Student" available on online registration system.

Registration number will be generated. *Please note the registration number* as it has to be entered during the essay writing competition.

2) Giving a missed call at 9015910123 using mobile



3) Calling toll free number 18002005188 using mobile



Procedure for participation in the competition

1) Online mode

On the day of the competition go to the link "Essay Writing Competition – Gurutsav-2014" on the website <http://mhrd.gov.in/>. The topic will be given on the same day at 9.00 am.

Click on "Start Writing ". Enter your registration number and start writing your essay.

2) Using email

After completing the work capture/click the photograph of your written page or scan and send the same through email. For classes I-V, and for visually impaired students, audio/video of not more than 2 minute duration can be sent through the email as an attachment to ministryhrd1@gmail.com.

Please note that the responses will not be accepted after the expiry of prescribed time limit.

Add 30 minute for classes I-XII for email.

Unregistered responses will not be accepted. Blurred or distorted images which cannot be read will not be evaluated.

Please mention the following details in the subject line: **Name of Participant, Registration No., Language of Essay, Gender (Male/Female), Father's/Guardian's Name, Class, School Name, District, State, Category (SC/ST/OBC/Gen), Whether family income less than Rs 6,00,000/-, Whether differently abled and Mobile Number.** If this information is not provided in the subject line the application will be summarily rejected.

3) Using Mobiles

