

(registered under the relevant Trust Act). Philanthropic contributions in social sectors, including the education sector, by a company, are governed by the provisions of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) under the Companies Act, 2013. As per this Act, the Board of every company, having net worth of rupees five hundred crore or more during any financial year, shall ensure that the company spends, in every financial year, at least two per cent, of the average net profits of the company made during the three immediately preceding financial years, in pursuance of its CSR Policy. Further, the company shall give preference to the local area and areas around it where it operates, for spending the amount earmarked for CSR activities. Remittances by philanthropic organizations in the education sector are governed by the relevant laws and regulations regarding overseas remittances, tax liability etc.

A not-for-profit Society, registered under the relevant Societies Registration Act, 1860 or a not-for-profit Trust, registered under the Public Trust Act, or a not-profit Company under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 can sponsor a proposal to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for recognition of their educational institution as a Deemed to be University in accordance with the provisions of the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2010. The status of a Deemed to be University is conferred by the Central Government on the advice of UGC.

(b) The details are not centrally maintained.

(c) The Central Government, in order to promote philanthropic contribution in the education sector has allowed States, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan, to mobilize private sector funding including through innovative means Corporate Donations and Philanthropic grants, limited to 50% of the State Share which is 35% or 90%, as the case may be.

(d) No such proposal is under consideration at present.

Scholarship for higher education in foreign countries

839. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether scholarships have been introduced and implemented by Government for deserving students from SCs, STs and backward classes, who wish to pursue their higher education abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the number of such scholarships to cater to more number of deserving students;

(d) whether Government proposes to make modifications in the Model Education Loan Scheme, keeping in view the need of these students, who could be incapable of providing collateral security; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (e) The Government is implementing the following schemes for providing financial assistance to students belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and backward classes to pursue their higher education abroad:

1. **National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe Students:** This scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to meritorious Scheduled Tribe students for pursuing higher studies of Master level courses, Ph.D. and Post Doctoral Research Programmes in foreign universities in the field of Engineering, Technology and Science whose parental income does not exceed ₹ 6. lac per annum. The selected candidates are given cost of tuition and other educational fee charged by foreign universities, maintenance and other grants along with travel expenses. Physical target and financial allocation under the scheme for the year 2014-15 is 20 (17 ST and 3 Primitive Tribal Group) beneficiaries and ₹ 1.0 Crore respectively.
2. **National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Caste and OBC students:** These schemes are implemented by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in identified areas. The details of the schemes are:
 - (i) **National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Caste etc.:** Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for pursuing Master level course and Ph.D. abroad. The family income ceiling of the candidates/parents is ₹ 6.00 lac per annum. The number of awards available is 60 per annum. An amount of ₹ 6.00 crore has been provided under the scheme.
 - (ii) **National Overseas Scholarship for OBC Students:** This scheme is being implemented *w.e.f.* 2014-15. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for pursuing Master level course and Ph.D. abroad. The family income ceiling of the candidates/parents is ₹ 3.00 lac per annum. Physical target and financial allocation under the scheme for the year 2014-15 is 25 beneficiaries and ₹ 6 crore respectively.
3. **Padho Pardesh:** This scheme is implemented by Ministry of Minority Affairs. Padho Pardesh is a scheme of Interest Subsidy on educational loan on overseas studies for the meritorious and economically weaker students belonging to Minority Communities. For availing the benefit of the scheme, the total income

from all sources of the employed candidates or his/her parents/guardians in case of unemployed candidate shall not exceed ₹6.00 Lac per annum. Under the Scheme, 100% interest subsidy is provided on educational loan availed by the students, enrolled for course at Masters, M. Phil and Ph.D. levels, for overseas studies under the existing educational loan scheme of Indian Banks' Association (IBA). Physical target and financial allocation under the scheme for the year 2014-15 is 100 beneficiaries and ₹4 Crore respectively.

4. **Overseas Doctoral and Postdoctoral fellowship:** These scheme are implemented by Department of Science and Technology in identified areas for Indian students. The details are given as under:
 - (i) **Overseas Doctoral Fellowship:** The Scheme aims to build national capacity where the talent supply of researchers in areas of interest to the country is sub-critical by providing doctoral fellowship in select areas in chosen overseas institutions. The applicant should have completed eligible degree in India (Bachelor/Post graduate) in Science or Engineering (including Medicine, Pharma, Agriculture and related S&T areas) not earlier than preceding two year. The applicant should have got admission into doctoral research program in chosen areas in identified overseas top ranking universities as notified by the Board from time-to-time.
 - (ii) **Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship:** The Scheme aims to build national capacity in frontier areas of Science which are of interest to India by providing postdoctoral fellowship for a period not exceeding 2 years. The applicant should have completed Ph.D degree in Science and Engineering not earlier than the preceding two years from recognized institutions in India. For researchers who are in regular employment, the 2 year period may be relaxed. The Programme admits candidates in chosen areas in identified overseas top ranking universities as notified by the Board from time to time.
5. **Central Scheme to provide Interest Subsidy:** Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing the scheme. Under the scheme full interest subsidy is provided during the period of moratorium *i.e.*, Course Period plus one year or six months after getting job, whichever is earlier, on loans taken by students belonging to Economically Weaker Sections from scheduled banks under the Educational Loan Scheme of the Indian Banks' Association, for pursuing any of the approved courses of studies in technical and professional streams, from recognised institutions in India.

The interest subsidy under the Scheme is available to the eligible students whose

annual gross parental family income is not more than ₹4.5 lacs per year (from all sources) and is provided only once, either for the first undergraduate degree course or the post graduate degrees/diplomas in India. Interest Subsidy is, however, admissible for integrated courses (graduate + post graduate). The scheme is independent of any other schemes which may cater to Economically Weaker Sections.

Hike in stipends of JRF and SRF

840. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce a system of annual hikes in the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) stipends to keep up with the inflation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal to introduce a system of annual hikes in the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) stipends to keep up with inflation as the amount disbursed under these fellowships are not automatically linked to changes in price indices. However, the University Grants Commission has hiked the basic fellowship amounts of ₹16,000/- and ₹18,000/- under JRF/SRF respectively, by the following amounts, with effect from 1st December, 2014:

(i) for Basic Sciences these amounts have been enhanced to be at par with the similar basic fellowship amounts disbursed by Department of Science and Technology;

(ii) for Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences these amounts have been hiked by 55%.

Contribution of education in GDP

841. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of education in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in India and other countries, each separately; and

(b) the comparative figures of expenditure on education in India and other countries, each separately ?