

(c) what efforts are being made to ease the difficulties of students who suffered due to such failure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (c) The process of inviting online application for National Eligibility Test (NET) was begun on 15.10.2014 and closed on 15.11.2014. No failure of server was noticed between 15.10.2014 and 15.11.2014. The fee for NET through e-challan could be deposited in designated banks upto 18.11.2014. Further, 8,86,545 candidates successfully submitted their online applications for NET till last date *i.e.* 15.11.2014 and 8,18,350 candidates paid the fee till last date *i.e.* 18.11.2014.

Expenditure for scholarship to OBC students

†45. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of amount spent during the last ten years for giving scholarships to OBC students of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. (DR.) RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment runs two exclusive schemes *i.e.* Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme and Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for OBC Students. The details, as furnished by them regarding the amount spent during the last ten years for giving these scholarships is given below:

Year	Expenditure under the Scholarship Schemes (₹ in crore)	
	Pre-Matric Scholarship	Post-Matric Scholarship
2004-05	18.75	24.67
2005-06	19.71	26.41
2006-07	25.27	28.04
2007-08	24.99	125.17
2008-09	32.17	180.00
2009-10	31.54	172.97
2010-11	44.71	353.32
2011-12	40.69	527.99
2012-13	47.01	666.86
2013-14	115.99	768.56

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2. The Ministry of Human Resource Development runs two Scholarship schemes namely Centrally Sponsored National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme and Central Sector Scholarship Scheme for College and University Students. Centrally Sponsored National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme has been launched in May, 2008, with the objective to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue the study at secondary stage. Reservation as per State Government norms is applicable under the Scheme. An amount of ₹ 323.56 crore has been spent on sanction of scholarship from 2008-09 to 2013-14. Central Sector Scholarship Scheme for College and University Students has been launched in 2008-09 with the aim to provide financial assistance to meritorious students *i.e.* those who are above the 80th percentile of successful candidates in relevant stream for a particular board of examination. The reservation is as per the Reservation policy of the Government subject to internal earmarking. Since, inception of the scheme *i.e.* from the academic year 2008-09 till date an amount of ₹ 771.28 crore has been spent in this scheme.

Data regarding disbursement of these two scholarships to the OBC students, however, is not maintained centrally.

Uniform education policy

46. SHRI PARVEZ HASHMI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning for uniform education policy for classes from nursery to XII in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, that reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the parents are demanding that age for admission in nursery class should be four years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (PROF. (DR.) RAM SHANKAR KATHERIA): (a) to (e) The National Policy on Education 1986, as amended in 1992, has been the guiding document for the policies of the Central Government in the education sector. The Government has been following National Policy on Education 1986, as modified in 1992, which provides for