

To successfully operationalize and create accessible environment, Government has conceptualized a multi-sectoral “Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan)” as a nation-wide flagship campaign for achieving universal accessibility for PwDs. The Campaign focus on enhancing the accessibility of Government and public buildings, and built environment which includes public transportation across the country.

#### **Scholarships to the students of SC/ST of Uttarakhand**

†597. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scholarship fund to be given to the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the State of Uttarakhand has been released by the Centre for the financial year 2014-15 and 2015-16;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor, for not providing fund so far;

(c) whether State Government of Uttarakhand has requested the Ministry and the Prime Minister to provide the scholarship for the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes; and

(d) if so, the details of the action taken so far and by when the fund will be made available to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) Yes, Sir. The details of Scholarship fund released to student belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) of Uttarakhand during 2014-15 and 2015-16 are given as under:

(₹ in lakh)		
Name of the scheme	2014-15	2015-16
Pre-Matric Scholarship for SC students studying in classes IX and X.	1626.69	Proposal not yet received in Public Finance Management System (PFMS) portal
Post Matric Scholarship for SC students	1800.00	1728.00
Upgradation of Merit of SC students	5.00	4.50
Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students	19.82	107.00
Post Matric Scholarship for ST students	164.00	900.00

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Yes, Sir. Uttarakhand has requested for releasing balance Central Assistance (CA) of ₹ 40.46 crore under Post-Matric Scholarship for SC students (PMS-SC).
- (d) Additional Central Assistance of ₹ 4.00 crore has been released on 24.11.2015 to State of Uttarakhand under the Post-Matric Scholarship scheme for SC students.

**Review of reservation for Other Backward Castes (OBCs)**

†598. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI KANAK LATA SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a provision of reviewing other backward castes after every ten years under the Act related to the National Commission for Backward Classes set up by the recommendation of Mandal Commission and whether it is mentioned to change the reservation system accordingly to their economic and social status after such review;
- (b) if so, dates on which changes have been made under this Act, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether suggestions have been received for any changes in the reservation policy in the present scenario and whether any such proposal is under consideration of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT( SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) Yes, as per Section 11(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993 the Central Government may at any time, and shall, at the expiration of ten years from the coming into force of this Act and every succeeding period of ten years thereafter, undertake revision of the lists a view to excluding from such lists those classes who have ceased to be backward classes or for including in such lists new backward classes.

Section 11(2) of the said Act also provides the Central Government shall, while undertaking any revision referred to in sub-section (1), consult the National Commission for Backward Classes.

- (b) Till date, no such revision of Central List of OBCs has taken place.
- (c) No.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.