

Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) as 'Skill Development Component' of umbrella PMKVY to skill one crore people over the four years (2016-2020) with an outlay of ₹12,000 crore. The Scheme will be completely aligned to the Common Norms as notified with the approval of Cabinet on 15th July, 2015, and amended from time to time. Also, the Common Norms provide for incentives in the form of reimbursement of conveyance costs to Special Groups which includes Women and Persons with Disabilities (PwD). Further, the scheme also provides for boarding and lodging of candidates from 'North East States, Left Wing Extremism affected districts, Persons with Disabilities and others in accordance with the Common Norms guidelines.

To reach out to the candidates, training centres have been mandated to conduct mobilization through Kaushal Shivirs (mobilization camps) which are part of the PMKVY 2016-20, with financial incentives. Alternatively, candidates can reach out to NSDC call centre or visit website to get the information about the training providers in various localities. In the field, Hon'ble Members of Parliament are involved in mobilization, monitoring and post training placement of trainees as far as feasible.

Enhancement in rate of post matric scholarship

2101. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to enhance the present rate of scholarship under post matric scholarship scheme given to Other Backward Classes (OBC) students;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to enhance the rate of scholarship justified as per the current consumer price index?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (c) The scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for OBCs was last revised in 2011-12, *inter-alia*, enhancing the rates of scholarship. Presently, there is no proposal to enhance the present rate of scholarship under post matric scholarship scheme to Other Backward Classes (OBCs).

Increase in assistance to disabled persons for purchase of aids

2102. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state: