

**Statement-II**

The following steps actions have been taken to improve the uptake under Scholarship Schemes for persons with disabilities (PwDs):

- (i) The National e-Scholarships Portal (NeSP) [www.scholarships.gov.in](http://www.scholarships.gov.in) has been launched as a part of Digital India campaign by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2015. Three scholarship schemes of this Department namely Pre-Matric Scholarship, Post-Matric Scholarship and Top Class Education are being implemented through NeSP. NeSP is one-stop solution through which various services, starting from student registration, application receipt, processing, sanction and disbursal of various scholarships to students, are enabled.
- (ii) The fellowship amount under National Fellowship for persons with disabilities scheme (NFPwD) has been enhanced from Rs 16,000/- to ₹25,000/- per month for Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and ₹ 18,000/- to ₹28,000/- per month for Senior Research Fellowship (SRF).
- (iii) Courses at the level of post-graduate degree/diploma/certificate are also included under Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme.
- (iv) Advertisement is published in leading newspapers all over the country to call for applications for all the schemes.
- (v) Notifications are issued through the website of this Ministry for information of all concerned.
- (vi) Letters to all Chief Secretary of State Governments/UT have been issued for cooperation of State Governments/UT for verification of scholarship applications of PwDs.

**Comparative powers of NCBC and NCSC**

2110. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the mandate of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC);
- (b) the number of castes, sub-castes, communities etc. notified on the advice tendered by NCBC till March, 2016; and
- (c) the comparative powers of NCBC vis-a-vis the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) The mandate of the National

Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) is to examine requests for inclusion of any class of citizens as a backward class in the lists and hear complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists and tender such advice to the Central Government as it deems appropriate as per Section 9(1) of the NCBC act, 1993.

(b) A total of 673 number of Entries have been notified on the advices tendered by NCBC till March, 2016. An 'entry' for this purpose includes caste, its synonyms and sub-castes.

(c) The NCBC is a statutory body created by the NCBC Act No. 27 of 1993 whereas, the NCSC is a constitutional body functioning under Article 338 of the Constitution.

#### **Special delivery monitoring unit of PMO**

2111. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Special Delivery Monitoring Unit has been established in the Prime Minister's Office to ensure time-bound implementation of key programmes;

(b) if so, the details of key programmes which are including under a Special Delivery Monitoring Unit; and

(c) how far this Unit is useful for monitoring the programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) A Delivery Monitoring Unit (DMU) has been functioning in Prime Minister's Office (PMO) since the year 2009.

Various Programme / Schemes have been included for closer and effective monitoring in Pro-Governance And Timely Implementation (PRAGATI) and Project Monitoring Unit in Cabinet Secretariat.

#### **Review of methodology for computing GDP**

2112. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether analysts including those from US Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs and in private economic research sector have pointed out to a