

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) to (e) The scholarship amount under the Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme to Scheduled Caste (SC) students studying in classes IX and X has been revised to ₹ 225/- per month for Day Scholars and ₹ 525/- per month for Hostellers w.e.f. 19.09.2017. Besides this, annual adhoc grant for Day Scholars is ₹ 750/- per annum and ₹ 1000/- per annum for Hostellers. There is no proposal, at present, to further revise the norms under the scheme, as the same has been already recently done.

#### **Supreme Court judgement on SC/ST act**

2681. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to apprehensions of various people on the recent judgement of the Supreme Court on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is of the view that the said judgement is a dilution of certain provisions of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE): (a) to (c) Reactions from various forums have been received in regard to effects of the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the deterrence of the The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities){PoA} Act, 1989.

Since the Judgment dated 20.03.2018 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Criminal Appeal No. 416 of 2018 (Dr. Subhash Kashinath Mahajan *V/s* the State of Maharashtra and Another) has bearing on the effectiveness of the PoA Act, the Union of India had filed a Review Petition (Crl.) on 02.04.2018 in the Hon'ble Court, praying for reviewing the judgment and recalling the directions and the matter is *sub-judice* in the court.

The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill, 2018, has been passed in the Lok Sabha on 06.08.2018, to amend the provisions of the Act in order to restore its effectiveness.