

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (c) The implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode for payment of scholarship directly into the student's bank account and launching of National Scholarship Portal (NSP) software in 2015, has eliminated duplication and leakage and prevented fake/fraudulent applications and the introduction of NSP and DBT has had an impact in the number of scholarships awarded. The process now has become more transparent and accountable and provides scholarship to the really needy and genuine beneficiaries. Details of number of applications received and beneficiaries awarded scholarships under the Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme, Post-matric Scholarship Scheme and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes for the last three years are given in the table below:

Scheme	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18	
	No. of applicati- ons received	No. of beneficia- ries awarded	No. of applicati- ons received	No. of beneficia- ries awarded	No. of applicati- ons received	No. of beneficia- ries awarded
Pre-matric Scholarship	69,82,276	51,78,779	86,35,428	41,53,524	96,50,248	48,74,220
Post-matric Scholarship	17,30,089	6,66,840	18,03,649	6,24,990	17,35,599	6,21,321
Merit-cum- Means based Scholarship	2,62,829	1,33,582	2,80,639	1,21,858	2,49,230	1,16,452
TOTAL	89,75,194	59,79,201	1,07,19,716	49,00,372	1,16,35,077	56,11,993

Solar energy production

128. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total solar energy production in the country at present;
- (b) year-wise data of solar energy production since 2015; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to improve power production through renewable energy sources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has reported that the total solar energy production in the year 2018-19 was 21.365 Billion Units (BUs), as on 31.10.2018.

(b) The year-wise details of solar energy production since, 2015 are given as under:

Sl. No.	Year	Generation from Solar Projects (BUs)
1.	2015-16	7.448
2.	2016-17	13.499
3.	2017-18	25.871
4.	2018-19	21.365
		(as on 31.10.2018)

(c) Government have taken various steps to increase generation of renewable energy. These *inter alia*, include the following:

- (i) Announcement of a target of installing 175 GW of renewable energy capacity by March, 2022;
- (ii) Declaration of trajectory for Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO) up to the year 2021-22;
- (iii) Fiscal and financial incentives such as Capital Subsidy, Viability gap funding (VGF), accelerated depreciation benefits etc;
- (iv) Permitting 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) under the automatic route in renewable energy sector;
- (v) Guidelines for procurement of solar and wind power through tariff based competitive bidding process;
- (vi) Waiving of Inter State Transmission System Charges and losses for inter-state sale of solar and wind power for projects to be commissioned up to March, 2022;
- (vii) Raising funds from bilateral and multilateral finance and development institutions;
- (viii) Implementation of Green Energy Corridor project to facilitate integration of large scale renewable generation capacity addition.