

and EBC students so as to provide them better opportunities for higher education abroad and enhance their employability. To be eligible under the scheme, a student should come under the income ceiling as per extant Creamy Layer criteria for OBCs and for EBCs it is ₹ 2.50 lakh per annum. 50% of the outlay every year is earmarked for Girl students. The students should have secured admission in the approved courses at Masters, M.Phil or Ph.D levels abroad. He/She should have availed loan from a scheduled bank under the Education Loan Scheme of the Indian Banks Association (IBA) for the purpose. Under the scheme, interest payable by the students availing the education loans of the IBA for the period of moratorium (*i.e.* course period, plus one year or six months after getting job, whichever is earlier) as prescribed under the Education Loan Scheme of the IBA, shall be borne by the Government of India.

II. Dr. Ambedkar Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for students belonging to Economically Backward Classes (EBCs)

This is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme being implemented through the State Government and Union Territories *w.e.f.* 2014-15. The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the EBC students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage. The income ceiling of parents/guardians for eligibility is ₹1.00 lakh per annum (including self-income, if employed). The Scheme is a "Funds-Limited" Scheme. The funds will be released to the States on first-come first-served basis, subject to a maximum amount to be worked out every year based on total budget made available that year, under the scheme.

III. Assistance for Skill Development of OBCs/DNTs/EBCs

The aim of the scheme is to involve the voluntary sector and National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) to improve educational and socio-economic conditions of the target group *i.e.* OBCs/DNTs/EBCs, with a view to upgrade their skill to enable them to start income generating activities on their own or get gainfully employed in some sector or the other. The Government of India meets 90% of the approved expenditure of the training programme. The scheme has been revised in 2017-18 with focus on skill development. Moreover, the scheme has been made completely online from 2014-15.

Discrimination against SC/ST people on social media

2694. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the caste-based discrimination against Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes people on social media/networking sites like Twitter, Facebook, etc.;

(b) whether Government has taken any action for suspending and verifying the accounts which are handled by the discriminators against SCs/STs on these social media platforms and taken strict actions against them; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE): (a) to (c) An Act of Parliament namely the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities){PoA}, Act, 1989, which was enacted to prevent commission of offences of atrocities against member of Scheduled Castes(SCs) and Scheduled Tribes(STs), *inter alia*, prescribes punishment for a specified offence under its section 3(1)(u) for promoting or attempting to promote feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will against members of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes, by words either written or spoken or by signs or by visible representation or otherwise.

Further, as per Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any computer resource in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign states or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence.

When such an incident is brought to the notice of this Ministry, a factual report is sought from the concerned State/UT, along with an action if taken under relevant provisions of the PoA Act.

Since 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule

(List-II) to the Constitution of India, the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of all crimes within their jurisdiction including crimes against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as also for implementation of provisions of the PoA Act.

Sub castes synonyms to castes enumerated in SC list in Uttar Pradesh

†2695. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) whether sub castes namely Kahar, Kashyap, Kewat, Mallah, Nishad, Kumhar, Prajapati, Dhivar, Bind, Bhar, Rajphar, Dhimar, Batham, Turaha, Godiya, Majhi and Machua happens to be synonyms of the castes enumerated in the list of Scheduled Castes in Uttar Pradesh namely Beldar at Sl. No. 18; Gond at Sl. No. 36; Majhwar at Sl. No. 53; Pasi at Sl. No. 59; Shilpkar at Sl. No. 65 and Turcha at Sl. No. 66 respectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) category-wise and State-wise details of said castes; and

(d) whether any steps is being taken by Ministry to enlist these castes uniformly across States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) In the list of Scheduled Castes of Uttar Pradesh contained in Part XVIII of the Schedule to the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 as amended from time to time Kahar, Kashyap, Kewat, Mallah, Nishad, Kumhar, Prajapati, Dhivar, Bind, Bhar, Rajbhar, Dhimar, Batham, Turaha, Godiya, Majhi and Machua communities have not been shown as synonyms to Beldar at Sl. No. 18, Gond at Sl. No. 36, Majhwar at Sl. No.53, Pasi, Tarmali at Sl. No. 59, Shilpkar at Sl. No.65 and Turaiha (not Turcha) at Sl. No.66. State and category-wise details of above communities are given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) No, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.