

Lal University (JNU) on 5th January, 2020. An FIR was registered on 06.01.2020 at Vasant Kunj (North) Police Station with regard to the incident. The Central Universities are autonomous institutions created under the respective act of Parliament and are governed by their own Acts, Statutes, Ordinances etc. and Regulations made thereunder and are competent to take action in their academic and administrative matters. MHRD does not interfere generally in internal administrative and academic matter of Central Universities.

#### **Financial assistance schemes for students**

1658. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to provide financial assistance to the students belonging to economically backward classes for their study abroad;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the policies/schemes adopted by Government in this regard;
- (d) the number of students to be benefitted thereunder; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated by Government during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (e) The Government is implementing the following schemes for providing financial assistance to students belonging to economically backward classes for their study abroad:—

- (i) **Padho Pardesh:** This scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Minority Affairs. Padho Pardesh is a Central Sector scheme which provides subsidy on educational loan for overseas studies for the meritorious and economically weaker students belonging to Minority Communities. For availing the benefit of the scheme, the TOTAL income from all sources of the employed candidates or his/her parents/guardians in case of unemployed candidate shall not exceed ₹ 6.00 Lac per annum. Under the Scheme, 100% interest subsidy is provided on educational loan availed by the students, enrolled for course at Masters, M. Phil and Ph.D. levels, for overseas studies under the existing

educational loan scheme of Indian Banks' Association (IBA). Financial allocation under the scheme for the year 2019-20 (Revised Estimate) is ₹ 25 crores.

- (ii) **Dr. Ambedkar Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loan for Overseas studies for OBC's and EBC's:** This scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment since 2014-15. A TOTAL of 2696 students have benefitted from the scheme. Financial allocation under the scheme for the year 2019-20 (Revised Estimate) is ₹ 26.09 crores.

#### **Educational opportunities for poor students**

†1659. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure the admission of poor but deserving students in Government and private universities and schools across the country;

(b) the details of various steps taken to ensure adequate representation and admission of the students from the rural areas with economically weaker background;

(c) whether Government has an Expert Advisory Committee to advise on this matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Government is committed to ensure adequate representation and admission of students from poor economic backgrounds. In this regard, for advancement of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) of the society, and in accordance with the Constitution 103rd Amendment Act 2019, this Ministry has issued instructions providing 10 percent reservation to EWS categories for admission in Central Educational Institutions (CEIs). This reservation for EWS categories would be provided without disturbing the existing entitlements for SC/ST and OBC categories.

The above reservation is being provided from the academic year 2019-20 onwards in Central Educational Institutions, and would help in creating more than 2 lakh additional seats.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.