

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1557  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.03.2021**

**RECONSIDERATION OF INCOME LIMIT CRITERIA FOR PRE-MATRIC  
SCHOLARSHIP**

**1557. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:**

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has kept one lakh as the family income limit as eligibility criteria for pre-matric scholarship;
- (b) if so, the rationale through which Government has arrived at the figure of one lakh as the income limit for eligibility for pre-matric scholarship; and
- (c) whether Government is ready to reconsider the current income limit criteria, as it is exclusionary in nature for many needy students?

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS  
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

- (a): Yes sir.
- (b): The Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme started in financial year 2008-09 as Centrally Sponsored Scheme. During the discussion of the Scheme at Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) stage Department of Expenditure (DoE) had recommended that the annual income ceiling may be kept at Rs.1 Lakh as per the then definition of poverty.
- (c): The existing guidelines of the scheme will be reconsidered while seeking approval for its continuation during the Fifteenth Finance Commission Cycle i.e. 2021-22 to 2025-26.

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