

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2195
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.03.2021**

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO POOR MINORITY STUDENTS

2195. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides financial assistance to poor minority students for graduation level studies;
- (b) if so, details thereof and if not, whether Government has any plan to do so;
- (c) number of minority students benefitted in terms of financial assistance for their higher studies in foreign countries;
- (d) details of amount spent by the Ministry for education of minority students for last three years, year-wise;
- (e) whether the Ministry provides assistance to States for carrying out schemes for the welfare of minority students; and
- (f) if so, details thereof and if not, whether Government has any plan to do so in near future?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Minority Affairs implements Post Matric and Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Schemes for the educational empowerment of poor students belonging to six notified minority communities i.e. Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Parsi and Sikh in all States/UTs across the country and to extend financial assistance for graduation level studies as detailed below:

(ii) **Post Matric Scholarship Scheme-** The scholarship is provided to minority students studying in Class XI to Ph.D level in Government/ recognized private schools/Colleges/Institutes. Minimum 30% scholarships are earmarked for girls. To be eligible, students should not have annual parental/guardian's income more than Rs.2.00 lakh and he/she should have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class.

(iii) **Merit-cum-Mean based Scholarship Scheme -** The scholarship is awarded for pursuing professional and technical courses at under-graduate and post-graduate levels, in institutions recognized by the appropriate authority. Under the scheme, 30% Scholarships are earmarked for girl students. 85 institutes for professional and technical courses have been listed in the scheme; for which full course fee is

reimbursed. To be eligible, students should not have annual parental/guardian's income more than Rs.2.50 lakh and he/she should have secured minimum 50% marks in previous class.

(c) & (d): This Ministry also implements the 'Padho Pardesh- Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educational Loans for overseas studies for the educational empowerment of students belonging to six notified minority communities i.e. Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Parsi and Sikh in all States across the country. The scheme-wise details of Scholarships/Interest Subsidies sanctioned and amount involved during the last three years, year-wise, are as under:-

Schemes	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 *		Grand Total	
	Scholarship /Interest Subsidy Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned/Released (In Rs. Crore)	Scholarship/ Interest Subsidy Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned/Released (In Rs. Crore)	Scholarship/ Interest Subsidy Sanctioned	Amount Sanctioned/Released (In Rs. Crore)	Total Scholarships/ Interest Subsidy	Total Amount Sanctioned/Released (In Rs. Crore)
Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme	5311257	1078.42	5691854	1264.29	5568025	1424.56	16571136	3767.27
Post Matric Scholarship Scheme	698069	413.84	684265	423.18	743141	482.65	2125475	1319.67
Merit-cum-Means based Scholarship Scheme	119472	324.86	117771	315.93	118359	315.62	355602	956.41
Maulana Azad National Fellowship Scheme	756	124.87	1000	97.85	1251	100.00	3007	322.72
Padho Pardesh Scheme	1711	17.00	2495	45.00	3238	14.43	7444	76.43
Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship	114094	64.03	200000	111.39	295026	165.19	609120	340.61
Total	62,45,359	2023.02	66,97,385	2257.64	67,29,040	2502.45	1,96,71,784	6783.11

* Provisional Data in respect of 3 Scholarship Schemes.

(e) & (f): This Ministry implements Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) in the identified Minority Concentration Areas (MCAs) of the country with the objective of developing socio-economic assets and basic amenities for improving quality of life of the people in these areas. The coverage of the scheme has been extended in 2018-19 to 308 districts including 109 Minority Concentration District Hqrs, 321 Minority Concentration Towns and 870 Minority Concentration Blocks. Under PMJVK, education is one of the priority sectors, besides health, skill development and women centric projects. During 2014-15 to 2020-21, projects amounting to Rs. 8924.02 crore having Central Share of Rs. 6374.19 crore have been approved in the

education sector. These projects include 165 - Residential Schools, 32 - Degree Colleges, 646 – Student Hostels, 6 - Navodyas Vidyalayas, 95 - ITIs, 13 - Polytechnics, 15 - Skill Centres, 22,908 - Additional Classrooms (ACR), 356- ACR blocks, 5,361 - Sanitation Projects in Schools, 9,999 - Smart Classes and Teaching Aids, etc.
