

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.352
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.07.2022

Delay in JRF and SRF scholarship payments by UGC

352 Shri Binoy Viswam:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of students currently awarded the Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and Senior Research Fellowship (SRF) scholarship, the details category and university-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been delay in disbursement of JRF/SRF scholarships last year, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of eligible students who have not received their JRF/SRF scholarship payment in the last six months;

(d) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has sufficient funds for disbursal of the JRF/SRF scholarships on a monthly basis to all eligible students; and

(e) total budget allocated for JRF/SRF payment and utilized since 2019?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(Dr. SUBHAS SARKAR)**

(a): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that under UGC National Eligibility Test (NET) Junior Research Fellowship (JRF), the candidates are selected among the students who qualify UGC NET or Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) NET examination. The selection is not made University-wise. A total of 12,427 candidates were selected under UGC NET JRF during Dec 2020/June 2021 sessions. The number of fellowships awarded to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Economically Weaker Sections and General Category Candidates are 1958, 962, 4475, 2061 and 2971 respectively. The initial selection of students is done for award of JRF. After two years of research, the scholars are upgraded as Senior Research Fellows (SRF).

(b) & (c): The payment of UGC NET JRF/SRF fellowship is made to the eligible students on regular basis, under DBT mode through a dedicated portal. The payments are generated and paid on monthly basis on the basis of updation of monthly confirmation by the institution on the portal. UGC has informed that for all the claims made on the portal the fellowship have been released.

(d) & (e): Every month, the nodal bank of UGC generates the payment files for each individual student. The requirement of funds generated through payment files is raised. After receipt of the same, the amount of fellowship is transferred to the bank account of each individual student in the same month. Under JRF/SRF, UGC has disbursed ₹1047.5 cr., ₹1061.34cr., ₹1153.69 cr. and ₹307.04 cr., during the Financial Years 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22 and 2022-23 (upto 08th July, 2022) respectively to the beneficiaries.
