

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1928
ANSWERED ON 20.12.2023

MISUSE OF MINORITY SCHOLARSHIPS

1928. DR. ANIL JAIN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware about reports of fake beneficiaries at the State level under the Minority Scholarships ; and
- (b) the State which has the highest percentage of misuse of minority scholarship ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (b): The Government has implemented various schemes for the welfare and upliftment of every strata, including minorities, especially the economically weaker and lesser privileged sections of the society, through various schemes of different Ministries. Ministry of Minority Affairs has specifically implemented various schemes, including Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship schemes, across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the six notified minority communities. All aspects including revision of income criteria for the parents are looked into by the Government.

Ministry examined the implementation of Scholarship schemes and certain gaps were found, which were further analyzed and also corroborated by All India Performance Audit Report. Taking cognizance of the same, the Ministry entrusted a third party to carry out Impact Evaluation study and Physical Verification of Institutes and applicants of Scholarship Scheme. On physical verification of 1572 institutions, about 830 institutes have been found to be fake/ partial fake or non-functional. The findings of the study indicated gross irregularities with instances where benefit of Scholarship Schemes is not reaching to the targeted beneficiaries. The Government has referred the matter to CBI for thorough investigation and FIR has been registered by CBI. The State of Uttar Pradesh has the highest percentage of fake applicants.
