

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -1088
ANSWERED ON - 04/12/2024

FREE COACHING SCHEME FOR SC/OBC STUDENTS

1088. SHRI S KALYANASUNDARAM

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of beneficiaries of the 'Free Coaching Scheme' for SC and OBC students, State-wise and year-wise details for the last five years;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to ensure wider awareness of this scheme, especially in rural and remote areas, to enable more SC and OBC students to avail its benefits;
- (c) the funds allocated and spent under the scheme during the last five years, State-wise breakup details thereof; and
- (d) the measures implemented to ensure the successful operation of the scheme, viz. long term tracking of their success in competitive exams and subsequent employment or education?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

- (a) The Scheme of Free Coaching for SC and OBC students is a Central Sector Scheme which is implemented through empaneled Central Universities across the country. Details at State/UT wise beneficiaries are not maintained. Number of beneficiaries across the country during last five years are:

| Financial Year | No. of beneficiaries |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2019-20 | 1345 |
| 2020-21 | 2112 |
| 2021-22 | 1761 |
| 2022-23 | 558 |
| 2023-24 | 223 |
| 2024-25 | 1237 (till date) |

- (b) To ensure wider awareness of the Scheme, the Department has taken various steps such as advertisements in National and Regional Newspapers, running Social Media campaigns, Scheme Guidelines details uploaded on Website, follow up with States/UTs for popularizing the Scheme.

(c) The Scheme is a Central Sector Scheme and funds are not allotted to States/UTs. The financial assistance is released to the Aadhaar seeded bank account of the students through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The details of funds allocated and expenditure under the Scheme during last 5 years is as follows:

| Financial Year | Funds allocated (RE) (in Crore) | Expenditure (in Crore) |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| 2019-20 | 30.00 | 13.26 |
| 2020-21 | 30.00 | 11.96 |
| 2021-22 | 30.00 | 14.98 |
| 2022-23 | 27.00 | 18.41 |
| 2023-24 | 14.82 | 7.76 |
| 2024-25 | 18.00 (Proposed) | 9.26 (till date) |

(d) To ensure successful operation of the Scheme, being run by empaneled Central Universities, the second installment is released only after fulfilling the prescribed success rate criteria, which varies as per the type of competitive/entrance examination.
