

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 955
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2015**

Scholarships to Minority students

955. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of minority students who have been provided scholarships in the country in the current year;
- (b) the details of scholarships provided for pre-matric, post-matric and higher education in the current year; and
- (c) what are the steps being taken by Government for the improvement of minority students?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)**

- (a) and (b) : For the educational empowerment of the students belonging to the notified minority communities, the Ministry of Minority Affairs implements scholarship schemes i.e. Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme for class I to X, Post-matric Scholarship Scheme for class XI to Ph.D, and Merit-cum-means (MCM) based Scholarship Scheme for professional and technical courses. During current year, 9,768 minority students have been awarded scholarships under these three Schemes up to 30.06.2015.
- (c) : In order to bring improvement in minority students, Ministry of Minority Affairs provides assistance in form of scholarships; fellowship to promote higher education; interest subsidy on educational loans to facilitate higher education abroad; and coaching in reputed institutions to enable them to appear in Competitive Examinations. 30% seats in all these schemes are earmarked for minority girl students. The Ministry also provides financial support for the preparation of Main Examinations to the candidates who qualify in the Preliminary Examination of the Civil Services conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), State Public Service Commissions and the Staff Selection Commission. Ministry has also taken action to formulate a new scheme 'Nai Manzil', which is an integrated education and livelihood initiative, for school dropouts and Madrasa students.