GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1157
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2021

Accessibility of higher education

1157. Shri Neeraj Dangi:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019 provides reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections;

(b) if so, whether this is contradicted by the fee hike in Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) i.e. Central Universities, IITs and Centrally-funded HEIs;

(c) whether the fee hike in Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) i.e. Central Universities, IITs, and Centrally-funded HEIs will make education inaccessible to poorer persons; and

(d) the details of steps taken with amount spent to ensure accessibility of higher education to poorer persons in the country?

ANSWER

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

(a) : Yes Sir.

(b) to (d): The government is committed to make higher education accessible to all sections of the society including the poor. The department is implementing the following schemes to assist meritorious students from poor financial background and to ensure that no one from the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) is denied access to higher education, only for the reason that he or she is poor:

1. Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students (CSSS)
2. Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir (SSS for J&K).
3. Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme (CSIS)

Besides the above, tuition fee is Waived by Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and National Institutes of technology (NITs) whereby the students whose family income is less than a specified level get full/partial remission of the fee.

***