GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -3170
ANSWERED ON - 30/03/2022

ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR NOS SCHEME

3170. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH
SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN
SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE

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

(a) the number of students selected against the total number of scholarships stipulated under National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) scheme, year-wise and State-wise in last five years;

(b) the total funds disbursed under the NOS scheme,year-wise from 2016 to 2021;

(c) whether in 2016-17, 2019-20, and 2021-2022 funds were granted to less than 50 per cent of the students, if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether subjects such as Indian culture/heritage/history/social studies on India-based research topics have been excluded from the ambit of the NOS scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY)

(a) National Overseas Scholarship Scheme being a Central Sector Scheme, statewise data is not maintained in the Department. However, the number of students selected against the total number of scholarships under the National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) scheme, year-wise in last five years is as under:

S NO.	Year	Stipulated No. of Slots	Candidates Selected
1	2016-17	100	108*
2	2017-18	100	183*
3	2018-19	100	100
4	2019-20	100	100
5	2020-21	100	100
6	2021-22	125	125

*Vacant slots of previous years were carried over.

(b) Total funds disbursed during 2016-17 to 2021-22 (upto 10.03.2022) is Rs. 123.40 crore, Year –wise figures are as under:-

S NO.	Year	Expenditure (Rs. Crore)
1	2016-17	14.02
2	2017-18	4.59
3	2018-19	5.97
4	2019-20	28.56
5	2020-21	32.92
6	2021-22	37.34#

As on 10.03.2022

(c) No, Sir. As per the guidelines of the scheme, the funds have been disbursed every year through the Indian Missions abroad to all such selected students who have joined the concerned foreign university after following the stipulated procedure.

(d) & (e) This department reviews the NOS scheme guidelines from time to time and makes changes which for simplifying the procedures and making the process more transparent. It was felt that the overseas scholarship for studying abroad is not needed for the topics/courses concerning Indian Culture, Heritage, History & Social studies on India, considering that Indian Universities are fully and well equipped to guide research based on such topics and most of the resources for these particular subjects are available within the country. These courses anyhow require frequent field visits to India during the course of studies and can thus be better undertaken in India itself and such students may avail of scholarship/fellowship under the other scholarship schemes being implemented by this Department as per their eligibility. Also, the selection of candidates from sub fields of Humanities/Social Sciences is still open to candidates who are aspiring to study Law, Economics, Psychology and other subjects which require international exposure.

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