

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -3798  
ANSWERED ON - 05/04/2023

**NATIONAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME**

3798 #. DR. ANIL JAIN

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

- (a) persons eligible for National Overseas Scholarship Scheme;
- (b) benefits provided to the beneficiaries of this scheme;
- (c) number of seats currently available under this scheme; and
- (d) the quantum of funds spent by Government under this scheme since the financial year 2018-19 till date?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)

(a) The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment implements two National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) schemes. One is implemented by the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment for students from Scheduled Castes, Denotified Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes, Landless Agricultural Labourers and Traditional Artisans category for pursuing Master's degree or Ph. D courses abroad. The other is implemented by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DoEPwD) to provide financial assistance to students with benchmark disabilities for pursuing Master's level courses and Ph. D abroad in the following specified fields of study: (a) Engineering & Management (b) Pure Sciences and Applied Sciences (c) Agricultural Science & Medicine (d) Commerce, Accounting and Finance and (e) Humanities, Social Science including Law & Fine Arts. The eligibility criteria of both the Departments is tabulated as outlined below:-

Criteria	DoSJE	DoEPwD
Minimum Qualification	For Ph.D.: At least 60% (sixty percent) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Master's Degree. For Masters' Degree: At least 60% (sixty percent) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Master's Degree	For Ph.D.: First class or 55% (fifty five per cent) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Master's Degree. For Masters' Degree: 55% (fifty five per cent) marks or equivalent grade in relevant Bachelor's Degree.

Age	Age not more than 35 years as on first day of April for Selection Year.	Below 35 (Thirty -Five) years as on 1st January of the year of application.
Income	Total family income from all sources shall not exceed Rs. 8.00 lakh per annum.	Parents/Guardian's income: Should not be more than Rs.8.0 lakh per annum.
Institute	Priority is given to candidates having unconditional offer of admission to top 500 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities as per the latest available QS rankings.	

(b) The benefits provided to the beneficiaries of this scheme are attached at **Annexure-I**.

(c) Currently, 125 and 20 scholarships are awarded every year by DoSJE and DoEPwD under their respective schemes.

(d) The funds disbursed under the two schemes since Financial Year 2018-19 till date is tabulated as below:

Year	(Rs. In Crore)	
	DoSJE	DoEPwD
	Funds Disbursed	Funds Disbursed
2018-19	5.97	1.08
2019-20	28.56	1.02
2020-21	32.92	1.23
2021-22	49.07	2.39
2022-23 (as on 29.03.2023)	75.44	2.95

\*\*\*\*\*

**Annexure-I**

**Annexure referred in reply to part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3798 for answer on 05/04/2023 regarding National Overseas Scholarship Scheme**

**(I) Benefits provided to the beneficiaries by DoSJE are given as below:-**

S. No.	Type of Assistance	United States of America (USA) & other countries except UK	United Kingdom (UK)
1.	Annual Maintenance Allowance	15400 US Dollars	9900 Great Britain Pounds
2.	Contingency Allowance	1500 US Dollars	1100 Great Britain Pounds
3.	Tuition Fees	Actual as charged	
4.	Visa Fees	Actual visa fees in Indian Rupees	
5.	Medical Insurance Premium	Actual as charged	
6.	Incidental Journey Allowance & Equipment Allowance	20 US Dollars for each or its equivalent in Indian Rupees	
7.	Air Passage	<p>a) The awardees shall be allowed to purchase air tickets (from nearest Airport to Hometown in India to the nearest place to the educational institution and back to India) from the three authorized travel agents viz. Balmer Lawrie &amp; Company Limited (BLCL), Ashok Travels &amp; Tours (ATT), Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) with the condition that the ticket purchased must be of economy class/shortest route on date of booking.</p> <p>b) The choice of the travel agent for booking of the ticket is left open to the awardees. No Booking charges/excess baggage/cancellation charges &amp; other add-ons will be reimbursed to awardees.</p> <p>c) The awardees will claim reimbursement of airfare from respective Indian Mission abroad after joining the University and providing joining report from University.</p> <p>d) The conditions will be effective from 1st Jan , 2022.</p> <p>e) Return tickets will be booked by Indian Mission abroad as per clause 11(iii).</p>	

**(II) Benefits provided to the beneficiaries by DoEPwD are as below:-**

- (i) Tuition fees: Tuition fees of foreign universities/colleges as per actual.
- (ii) Maintenance Allowance: US\$15,400/- per annum for United States of America and other countries except United Kingdom where it is GBP 9,900/- per annum.
- (iii) Contingency Allowance: US\$1500/- per annum for United States of America and other countries except United Kingdom where it is GBP 1100/- per annum.
- (iv) Incidental journey allowance: US\$20/-
- (v) Equipment Allowance: US\$20/-
- (vi) Visa Fees: As per actual.
- (vii) Medical Insurance Premium: As per actual.
- (viii) Cost of air passage: For onward journey to abroad, actual cost is reimbursed. Return ticket is arranged by Indian embassy concerned.

\*\*\*\*\*