

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 699
ANSWERED ON 08.02.2023

DISCONTINUATION OF PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP

699. # SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has discontinued Pre-Matric scholarships for minority students of classes I to VIII from 2022-23;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons owing to which Government has discontinued Pre-Matric scholarships to minority students; and
- (d) whether any study has been conducted about the adverse effects of the discontinuation of Pre-Matric scholarship on the children of minority communities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): The Government has implemented various schemes for the welfare and upliftment of every strata, including minorities, especially the economically weaker and lesser privileged sections of the society, through various schemes of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Rural Development.

Ministry of Minority Affairs has specifically implemented various welfare schemes, including various Scholarship schemes, across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the notified minority communities.

The coverage under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme has been revised from 2022-23 and made applicable for classes IX and X only as the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory elementary education (classes I to VIII) to each and every child. This modification has also been done to harmonize the scheme with other identical Scholarship schemes implemented by various Central Government Ministries.
