

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2354
ANSWERED ON 16/12/2024

**STATUS OF PRE-MATRIC, POST-MATRIC AND MERIT-CUM-
MEANS SCHOLARSHIPS**

2354 SHRI KARTIKEYA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of all the active Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means scholarships for the minority students, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether Government has conducted any assessment of the professional growth of the minority students rewarded with the said scholarships, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures being taken to ensure an equitable representation of all the sections of minority while awarding scholarships and the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Minority Affairs has been implementing various schemes for socio-economic empowerment of the six (6) centrally notified minority communities viz. Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Parsi and Sikh including various educational empowerment Schemes such as-

- (i) Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme- for Class IX-X;
- (ii) Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme- for Class XI to Ph.D; and
- (iii) Merit-cum-Means based scholarship Scheme- for technical and professional courses at Under Graduate/Post Graduate levels.

These Scholarship Schemes are implemented in all States/UTs across the country for economically disadvantaged students from minority community. The distribution of Scholarship is made proportionately on the basis of population of minorities in the respective States/Union Territories as per Census 2011.

The objective of the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme is to provide minority students with better opportunities for higher education and professional and technical courses at UG/PG levels, increase their rate of attainment in higher education, and enhance their employability. Further, in a recent impact and assessment study conducted through National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), Delhi, it is observed that-

- The enrolment in schools and institutes of higher education has increased. The improvement is most visible in the Muslim community.
- The schemes have helped in increasing the enrolment of girl child.
- A significant proportion of the beneficiaries (80%) across all three types of schemes agree that the scholarship has helped them in continuing education, improving regular attendance; and their pursuing higher education.
- Nearly 70% of the beneficiaries perceive that the amount of scholarship helped them to manage educational-related expenses due to which their families feel relaxed financially.
