

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2510
ANSWERED ON 11/08/2025

ALLOCATION AND UTILISATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MINORITY STUDENTS

2510. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:
DR. V. SIVADASAN:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) details of budget allocated and utilised for scholarships for Pre-Matric and Post-Matric minority students, and Merit-Cum-Means Scholarships for minorities during the last five years;
- (b) category-wise, year-wise and State-wise disbursement and details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for any under utilisation;
- (d) whether there are instances where a large number of minority applicants for scholarships did not receive benefit due to exhaustion of funds, or discontinuation of the schemes;
- (e) details thereof, State-wise; and
- (f) details of scholarship schemes and other educational support schemes intended for minority students that have been discontinued during the last five years?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (e): Ministry of Minority Affairs has implemented various schemes, including Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship schemes, across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the six notified minority communities. However, the schemes have not been approved for implementation beyond 2021-22. The details of budget allocated and utilised for the last 5 years is at **Annexure-I**. The category-wise, year-wise and State-wise details of beneficiaries are available on the website of this Ministry (<https://minorityaffairs.gov.in>).

(f): The University Grants Commission (UGC) and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) Fellowship Schemes are open for candidates of all social categories and communities including minorities. Further, students from minority communities are also covered under similar fellowship schemes of other Ministries. In view of such overlap, the Maulana Azad National Fellowship (MANF) Scheme had been discontinued from year 2022-23.

The Government has eased the norms and made various educational loans available easily to all students through banks. Besides, the National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a PSU under Ministry of Minority Affairs, also provides educational loans for education abroad, at lower rates of interest, exclusively to students belonging to minority communities. It has also been observed that benefits of interest subsidy that got accrued to the beneficiaries under the Padho Pardesh scheme were limited and also that there was an apparent overlap with other similar schemes being implemented by other Ministries which are applicable to eligible minority community students as well. In view of the aforesaid overlap, limited benefits and ease of availing education loans on lower rates of interest, the Padho Pradesh Scheme had been discontinued from year 2022-23. Further, 'Scheme for Providing Education in Madrasas/ Minorities' (SPEMM), has also been discontinued from year 2022-23.

Annexure-I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA USQ No. 2510 ANSWERED
ON 11.08.2025 ASKED BY HONB'LE MP Dr. JOHN BRITTAS Dr. V. SIVADASAN

Amount in Rs. Crore

Scheme	2020-21		2021-22		2022-23		2023-24		2024-25	
	Allocated	Utilized	Allocated	Utilized	Allocated	Utilized	Allocated	Utilized	Allocated	Utilized
Pre-Matric	1330.00	1325.54	1378.00	1350.99	556.82	43.95	400.00	95.84	90.00	1.55
Post-Matric	535.00	512.81	468.00	411.87	515.00	29.00	1000.00	85.02	343.91	5.31
Merit-cum-Means	400.00	396.34	325.00	345.77	358.02	34.90	25.00	152.74	19.41	3.50