

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -1251
ANSWERED ON – 10/12/2025

NATIONAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP (NOS) AND SHREYAS SCHEME

1251 SHRI P WILSON

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

(a) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee, in its March, 2025 report, flagged serious under-utilisation of funds under the National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) and ✓

SHREYAS scheme and delayed scholarship disbursal;

(b) if so, the details of budget allotted, revised budget and actual expenditure for the last five years under these schemes and reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Committee observed that the annual scholarship amount is insufficient to meet current student expenses;

(d) if so, the details of present scholarship amount and how it has been revised during last five years and steps taken; and

(e) the details of steps taken to increase the seats under NOS scheme?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) & (b) The Parliamentary Standing Committee in its March 2025 report on fund utilization under Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS) for SCs has observed as under:

“On the scrutiny of the Budgetary Allocation made for the scheme in 2024-25, it is found that the Department was not able to utilize budgetary allocation fully on any of the four sub-schemes. “

The above observations of the Committee are based on the inputs provided to the Committee during the fourth quarter of financial year 2024-25. At that point of time, the overall expenditure was low only in respect of Top Class Scheme for SCs(TCS) and Free Coaching Scheme for SCs and OBCs (FCS). This was due to the reason that National Scholarship Portal (NSP) on which the TCS is on boarded, was opened till 31.01.2025 and proposals of Scholarships from Empanelled Institutions are received only after closing of the portal. Further, under FCS, the proposals for release of 1st installment from Empanelled University was received by that time. However, the Department was able to utilize Rs 404 crore out of total allocated fund of Rs 428 crore for SHREYAS Scheme during financial year 2024-25. The details of the budget allocation, revised estimates and actual expenditure for the past five years under the sub-Schemes of SHREYAS are at **Annexure-I**.

(c) No such observation has been made by the Committee. In fact, the Committee's observations specifically relates to increase in number of slots presently available under the National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) Scheme and the income-eligibility criteria prescribed for the various sub-Schemes under SHREYAS.

(d) During the last five years, rates have been revised only under National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes (NFSC) and Free Coaching Scheme for SCs and OBCs (FCS). There have been no revision in rates under NOS and TCS. Details of the scholarship amounts currently provided to beneficiaries under various sub-Schemes of SHREYAS are at **Annexure-II**.

(e) The NOS Scheme has been approved for the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 by Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC). For extension of the Scheme for the next financial cycle, the Scheme is under review and consideration.

This Annexure referred to in part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 1251 due for answer on 10.12.2025

The details of the budget allocation, revised estimates and actual expenditure during the past five years under the sub-schemes of SHREYAS are as under:

i. Top Class Education for SCs

(Rs. in Crore)

Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Expenditure incurred
2020-21	40.00	50.00	52.87
2021-22	70.00	70.00	84.72
2022-23	108.00	108.00	85.67
2023-24	111.0	100.0	83.84
2024-25	110.00	103.00	103.26

ii. Free Coaching Scheme for SCs and OBCs and beneficiaries of PM Cares Children

(Rs. in Crore)

Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Expenditure incurred
2020-21	30.00	30.00	11.96
2021-22	50.00	30.00	14.98
2022-23	47.00	27.00	18.41
2023-24	47.00	14.82	7.76
2024-25	35.00	18.00	17.68

iii. National Overseas Scheme for SCs

(Rs. in Crore)

Financial Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Expenditure incurred
2020-21	20.00	30.00	32.92
2021-22	30.00	35.00	49.07
2022-23	36.00	50.00	86.59
2023-24	50.00	85.00	88.56
2024-25	95.00	95.00	74.17

iv. National Fellowship for SC students

(Rs. in Crore)

Year	Budget Allocation (B.E)	Revised Estimates (R.E)	Fund Released by Ministry
2020-21	300.00	125.00	133.10
2021-22	300.00	125.00	127.85
2022-23	173.00	159.00	134.07
2023-24	163.00	188.00	199.82
2024-25	188.00	212.00	209.50

ANNEXURE II

This Annexure referred to in part (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 1251 due for answer on 10.12.2025

The details of the scholarship amounts currently provided to beneficiaries under various sub-schemes of SHREYAS are as under:

S.No.	Name of the scheme	Tuition Fee/Fellowship	Annual Maintenance Allowance/ Academic Allowance/ Escort Allowance	Annual Contingency Allowance/ Stipend/ Incentive/ Reader
1.	Top Class Education for SCs	Full tuition fee for Government Institutions Rs. 2.00 Lakh per annum for Private Sector Institutions.	Rs. 86000/- in the first year Rs.41,000/- in subsequent years of study	-
2.	Free Coaching Scheme for SCs and OBCs and beneficiares of PM Cares Children	Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 75,000/- on the basis of course	Rs. 4,000 per month (not exceeding 12 months)	Rs. 15,000/- for interview
3.	National Overseas Scheme for SCs	As actuals	Rs. 15,400 US Dollars for United States of America (USA) & other countries (Except UK) Rs. 9,900 Great Britain Pounds in United Kingdom (UK)	Rs. 1,500 US Dollars for United States of America (USA) & other countries (Except UK) Rs. 1,100 Great Britain Pounds in United Kingdom (UK)
4.	National Fellowship for SC students	Rs. 37,000/- per month for Junior Research Fellows (JRF) Rs. 42,000/- per month for Senior Research Fellows (SRF)	Rs. 2,000 per month	For Humanities: Rs. 10,000 per annum for JRF and Rs. 20,500/- per annum for SRF For Sciences: Rs. 12,000 per annum for JRF and Rs. 25,000/- per annum for SRF
