

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1965**  
ANSWERED ON- 17/12/2025

**Discontinuation of special scholarship schemes**

1965 Shri Saket Gokhale:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the names and details of all Centrally sponsored/Central Sector Scholarship schemes, specifically for college and university students (other than those for reserved categories), that were either merged, phased out or discontinued in the last five years;
- (b) the Ministry's rationale for discontinuing the 'Special Scholarship Scheme for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir' and other similar targeted schemes and the alternative financial support mechanisms put in place for the affected students; and
- (c) the total number of students who benefited from the discontinued schemes in the last year of their operation?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) In the year 2023-24, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced the National Scholarship for Post Graduate Studies (NSPGS), as an umbrella scheme by merging four scholarships schemes, namely: i) PG single girl child scholarship, (ii) PG scholarship for university rank holders, (iii) PG scholarship for SC/ST students pursuing professional courses and (iv) Post Graduate Scholarship for GATE/GPAT. Under NSPGS, National Scholarships at the rate of Rs.15,000/- per month for 10 months in a year, are available for Indian students for two years to pursue higher studies within India, leading to award of Postgraduate Degree. Number of scholarship slots are 10,000 or as decided by the UGC, with 30% slots reserved for the women candidates.

(b) & (c) The Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (SSSJKL) is a component scheme under the umbrella scheme - Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP) Yojana. The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance towards

‘tuition fee and maintenance allowance’ to students who are (i) having domicile in J&K and Ladakh and (ii) having annual gross parental/family income up to ₹ 8 lakhs, for pursuing higher education in educational institutions outside the UTs and provide them an opportunity to interact with their counterparts from the rest of the country. The scheme is continuing and 5000 fresh slots are available for providing scholarships as per scheme guidelines.

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