

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -1420**  
ANSWERED ON – 11/02/2026

**EDUCATIONAL GRANT SCHEMES FOR SC/ST STUDENTS**

1420. SMT JEBI MATHER HISHAM

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

- (a) the details of prevailing educational grant schemes for SC/ST students;
- (b) whether Government is aware that delayed or non-receipt of grants has led to higher dropout rates during the course period, if so, the details thereof, State-wise/UT-wise;
- (c) steps taken to ensure the timely and uninterrupted disbursement of grants to prevent student dropouts;
- (d) what action has been taken, as the Supreme Court has sought an explanation for delays in disbursing sanctioned scholarships to SC/ST students; and
- (e) whether income ceilings have been introduced for e-Grants, despite such grants being part of a constitutional obligation, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) to (e) Department of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing various welfare schemes and educational grant Schemes for marginalized sections which include Scheduled Castes (SCs). Further, Ministry of Tribal Affairs is also implementing various welfare schemes for Scheduled Tribes (STs). The details of major education grant schemes along with income ceilings are at **Annexure**.

In order to increase expenditure under the Schemes, internal reviews are undertaken at regular intervals. Moreover, third party evaluations, social audit etc. are also being conducted regularly. For simpler and expeditious disbursement of funds and to ensure effective targeting of the beneficiaries, the disbursement under the Scholarship Schemes is done through DBT mode. Further, to ensure effective utilization of the funds, the Ministry has taken various steps such as publishing advertisements in national and regional newspapers, running Social Media campaigns and follow up with States/UTs.

Also, the Schemes are regularly monitored by the Ministry through National level Chintan Shivirs, Regional Meetings and National Conferences with the stakeholders and State/UT officials.

Review and revision of the Schemes which also covers the income ceilings follows a laid down procedure.

**Annexure referred to in part (a) to (e) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.1420 to be answered on 11.02.2026**

Details of prevailing major educational grant Schemes for SC/ST students being implemented by Government of India:

<b>Implementing Ministry/ Departments</b>	<b>Name of the Scheme</b>	<b>Targeted beneficiaries</b>	<b>Annual family Income ceiling</b>
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment	1.Pre-Matric Scholarships Scheme for SCs & Others	Scheduled Castes (SCs) & Others	Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum
	2. Post-Matric Scholarships to the students belonging to Scheduled Castes for studies in India (PMS-SC)	Scheduled Castes (SCs)	Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum
	3.Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers (SHREYAS) for Scheduled Castes (SCs), which includes: (i)Top Class Scholarship for SC students (TCS);	Scheduled Castes (SCs)	Rs. 8.00 lakh per annum
	(ii)Free Coaching Scheme for SCs, OBCs and beneficiaries of PM Cares children;	SCs, OBCs and beneficiaries of PM Cares children	Rs. 8.00 lakh per annum
	(iii)National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) Scheme for SC etc candidates; and	Scheduled Castes (SCs)	Rs. 8.00 lakh per annum
	(iv) National Fellowship for SC students (NFSC)	Scheduled Castes (SCs)	No income ceiling
	4. The Scheme for Residential Education for SC Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA)	Scheduled Castes (SCs)	Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum under Mode-I of the Scheme; No income ceiling under Mode-II of the Scheme.
Ministry of Tribal Affairs	1.Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students (Class IX and X)	Scheduled Tribes (STs)	Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum
	2. Post Matric Scholarship for ST students (Class XI and above)	Scheduled Tribes (STs)	Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum
	3. National Fellowship for Higher Education for ST students.	Scheduled Tribes (STs)	No income ceiling
	4. National Scholarship for Higher Education for ST students (Top Class)	Scheduled Tribes (STs)	Rs. 6.00 lakh per annum
	5. National Overseas Scholarship for ST students.	Scheduled Tribes (STs)	Rs. 6.00 lakh per annum