

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -3012**  
ANSWERED ON – 18/03/2026

**DELAY IN DISBURSEMENT OF NFOBC SCHOLARSHIPS**

3012. SHRI A. A. RAHIM

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

- (a) the total number of students selected for the National Fellowship for Other Backward Classes (NFOBC) scholarship in each of the last three academic years, year-wise;
- (b) the total amount allocated and released for disbursement under the NFOBC scheme during the same period and the amount pending for release, year-wise;
- (c) the number of students who have reported delays in receiving fellowship stipends or tuition support with an estimate of average delay duration; and
- (d) whether the Ministry has conducted a review of procedural bottlenecks or administrative gaps responsible for these delays and the steps proposed to ensure the timely release of funds to OBC PhD scholars?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

- (a) The total number of students selected for the National Fellowship for Other Backward Classes (NFOBC) scholarship in each of the last three academic years, year-wise is as under:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total number of students selected for the NFOBC Scholarship</b>
2022-23	1406
2023-24	1271
2024-25	1153

- (b) The total amount allocated and released for disbursement under the NFOBC scheme during the same period, year-wise is as under:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Amount allocated (Rs. in crs)</b>	<b>Amount released (Rs. in crs)</b>
2022-23	51.41	51.41
2023-24	89.42	89.42
2024-25	129.21	129.21

The funds have been sanctioned and disbursed as per the approved budget.

(c) & (d) The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment engaged a third-party agency namely Centre for Market Research & Social Development (CMRSD) to conduct an evaluation study. The agency has completed the study and submitted the report. As per the report, the intended goal has been achieved. Further, the fellowship under the NFOBC Scheme has been disbursed to all the scholars whose claims were received up to February 2026. The issue of delayed disbursement does not apply.

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