

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 4288
ANSWERED ON – 01/04/2026

COACHING SUPPORT FOR OBC CANDIDATES

4288 #. DR. BHIM SINGH

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

- (a) whether OBC candidates preparing for UPSC/competitive examinations are facing financial constraints, limited scholarships, lack of coaching facilities and difficulties related to income certificates, if so, the steps taken so far to resolve these problems; and
- (b) whether the Central Government is considering any new initiative to enhance scholarships, provide free/subsidized coaching, and increase digital study resources for OBC candidates, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) & (b) Under the Central Sector Scheme of Free Coaching for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and beneficiaries of PM CARES Children Scheme, 30 percent seats have been earmarked for the OBC candidates preparing for Union Public Service Commission/other competitive Examinations. Candidates selected for coaching are provided financial assistance ranging from ₹20,000/- to ₹75,000/- for various courses. In addition, they are also entitled for Stipend of ₹4,000/- per month. The scheme is implemented through the Central Universities who also address the concerns of the eligible applicants as per the scheme guidelines. The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment regularly reviews the scheme with the concerned stakeholders. The Scholarship Schemes of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) are reviewed after every Financial Cycle in consultation with all stakeholders including concerned Ministries and Departments as per the laid down procedure.
