

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -612  
ANSWERED ON – 04/02/2026

**FREE COACHING SCHEME FOR SC AND OBC STUDENTS**

612 SHRI S. KALYANASUNDARAM

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has reviewed the implementation and current status of the Free Coaching Scheme for SC and OBC students to support economically disadvantaged candidates appearing for competitive examinations;
- (b) the State-wise and district-wise details of funds sanctioned, released and utilised and the number of students benefitted, particularly in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) the criteria for fund allocation and student selection and measures to address gaps or delays in fund disbursement and coaching delivery; and
- (d) the steps taken to ensure equitable access, timely release of funds and full utilisation to maximise the scheme's reach and effectiveness?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)

(a) The Scheme of Free Coaching for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and beneficiaries of PM CARES Children Scheme (FCS) is reviewed from time to time. Presently, the Scheme is being implemented by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) through Dr. Ambedkar Centre of Excellence (DACE) established in 19 empanelled Central Universities. List of these 19 Central Universities is at **Annexure-I**.

(b) Scheme of Free Coaching for Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and beneficiaries of PM CARES Children Scheme (FCS) is a Central Sector Scheme, and as such, funds are not allocated State/District-wise. However, details of funds sanctioned to various empanelled Central Universities including the Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur during the Financial Year 2024-25 is at **Annexure-II**.

(c) & (d) Empanelled Central Universities selects eligible SC and OBC students through their own screening process, while PM CARES Children Scheme beneficiaries have been exempted from this process. The Department and Dr. Ambedkar Foundation coordinates with Universities for starting courses timely and sending proposals for release of course fees and stipends, ensuring wider reach and effective use of funds.

To ensure wider awareness of the Schemes across the country and effective utilization of funds, this Department has taken various steps such as advertisements in National and Regional Newspapers, running Social Media campaigns, uploading Scheme Guidelines on Department's website, continuous follow up with States/UTs and empanelled Central Universities for popularization of the Scheme. Also, the scheme is regularly monitored by the Department through Regional Meetings with the stakeholders and inspecting the randomly chosen Central Universities.

**Annexure-I**

This Annexure referred to in part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 612 due for answer on 04/02/2026 regarding “Free coaching scheme for SC and OBC students”

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of Central University</b>
1.	Allahabad University, Allahabad
2.	Manipur University, Imphal
3.	Central University of Tamilnadu, Thiruvarur
4.	North Eastern Hill University, Shillong
5.	Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala
6.	Central University of Kerala, Kasargod
7.	BHU, Varanasi
8.	Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh
9.	Central University of Punjab, Bathinda
10.	Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer
11.	Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Vardha
12.	Central University of Gujarat, Gandhi Nagar
13.	Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar, M.P.
14.	HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand
15.	Babasaheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar Central University (BBAU), Lucknow
16.	Central University of Odisha
17.	Tezpur University, Assam
18.	Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Madhya Pradesh
19.	Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh

**Annexure-II**

This Annexure referred to in part (b) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question no. 612 due for answer on 04/02/2026 regarding “Free coaching scheme for SC and OBC students”

S.No.	Name of Central University	Funds Sanctioned (Rs. in crores)	Beneficiaries
1.	Allahabad University, Allahabad	0.62	100
2.	Manipur University, Imphal	1.10	100
3.	Central University of Tamilnadu, Thiruvarur	0.82	73
4.	North Eastern Hill University, Shillong	No proposal received	No proposal received
5.	Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala	0.95	85
6.	Central University of Kerala, Kasargod	No proposal received	No proposal received
7.	BHU, Varanasi	1.21	100
8.	Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh	1.01	93
9.	Central University of Punjab, Bathinda	1.04	100
10.	Central University of Rajasthan, Ajmer	1.08	93
11.	Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Vardha	No proposal received	No proposal received
12.	Central University of Gujarat, Gandhi Nagar	1.18	96
13.	Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar, M.P.	0.98	91
14.	HNB Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand	1.50	193
15.	Babasaheb Bhim Rao Ambedkar Central University (BBAU), Lucknow	0.96	93
16.	Central University of Odisha	0.96	78
17.	Tezpur University, Assam	0.78	66
18.	Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Madhya Pradesh	1.01	94
19.	Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh	No proposal received	No proposal received

\*\*\*\*\*