

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2500
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10.08.2026

MINORITY COMMUNITIES

2500. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:
SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be please to state:

- (a) the details of scholarships awarded to students belonging to minority communities during the last five years;
- (b) whether Government has assessed the implementation of various minority welfare schemes and the outcomes achieved;
- (c) the details of skill development and livelihood programmes implemented for minority communities; and
- (d) the measures taken to improve educational and economic opportunities for minorities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (d): Government has taken various measures to improve educational and economic opportunities for minorities through educational assistance, skill development and livelihood interventions. Ministry of Minority Affairs implemented three Scholarship Schemes, i.e. Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship Schemes across the country for six notified minority communities, viz. Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Parsi and Sikh. The scheme has not been approved for implementation beyond 2021-22. The details of scholarships sanctioned to beneficiaries in during the period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 is at **Annexure-I**.

Another scheme run by Ministry during the 15th Finance Cycle is PMJVK. The assessment of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) was carried out and in the outcome, it has been found that the scheme has been effective in reducing development gaps in Minority Concentration Areas by creating essential infrastructure in sectors such as education, health and skill development.

The Ministry also implemented various skill development schemes such as Seekho aur Kamao, USTTAD, and Nai Manzil to support livelihood of six notified minority communities. These schemes subsequently converged under Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) for skill development; entrepreneurship and leadership of minority women; and education support for school dropouts.

Seekho aur Kamao Scheme was evaluated by the Management Development Institute (MDI, Gurugram) in 2020, the study found that 97% of the trained beneficiaries got skill certificates and 79% of the trainees got placements after completion of training. Further, 89% trainees reported improvement in the family living standard. Similarly, Nai Manzil scheme was evaluated by M/s Mott McDonald in 2021, 76% of the employers felt that the training provided was well-matched with industry requirements. The USTTAD Scheme was evaluated by Management Development Institute (MDI, Gurugram) in 2021, the study observed that 90% had no income source before the training program, however, after the training program, 69% of the respondents started earning and 85% reported enhancements of the living standard of the family.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS), a total of 83,864 beneficiaries have been enrolled and 35,361 beneficiaries have been trained. Under the PM VIKAS Scheme, the Ministry also organises Lok Samvardhan Parv to provide a platform to minority artisans, crafts-persons, weavers and culinary experts to showcase and market their indigenous arts, crafts and rich cultural heritage. So far, the Ministry has organised six Lok Samvardhan Parvs, along with workshops on marketing, export, online business, design, taxation and sales with the support of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH), facilitating market access and livelihood opportunities for minority artisans.

Annexure-I

Community- Wise Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme (2021-22 To 2025-26)								
AY	Muslim	Christan	Sikh	Buddhis t	Jain	Parsi	Total Scholarshi p	Amount Released (Rs. In Crore)
2021-22	4231712	727011	507578	187002	56691	795	5710789	1329.2
2022-23	222321	64752	17200	9014	5268	21	318576	100.32
2023-24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024-25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025-26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	4454033	791763	524778	196016	61959	816	6029365	1429.52
Community- Wise Post Matric Scholarship Scheme (2021-22 To 2025-26)								
AY	Muslim	Christan	Sikh	Buddhis t	Jain	Parsi	Total Scholarshi p	Amount Released (Rs. In Crore)
2021-22	543901	94074	61839	4908	15213	158	720093	469.57
2022-23	92420	18549	8975	738	3907	18	124607	79.28
2023-24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024-25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025-26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	636321	112623	70814	5646	19120	176	844700	548.85
Community- Wise MCM Scholarship Scheme (2021-22 To 2025-26)								
AY	Muslim	Christan	Sikh	Buddhis t	Jain	Parsi	Total Scholarshi p	Amount Released (Rs. In Crore)
2021-22	103072	22955	2230	267	3269	17	131810	352.91
2022-23	43110	12689	951	76	1603	1	58430	157.07
2023-24	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024-25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2025-26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	146182	35644	3181	343	4872	18	190240	509.98