

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *234
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12th March, 2018**

Students from Economically Backward Classes

***234. SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:**

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any policy for supporting the education of the students belonging to economically backward classes and those who are not able to pay the increased fee in the aftermath of implementation of recommendations of the 7th Central Pay Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)**

(a) to (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (B) OF THE LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 234 FOR 12.03.2018 ASKED BY SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA,
REGARDING STUDENTS FROM ECONOMICALLY BACKWARD CLASSES**

(a) to (b) : The Ministry of Human Resource Development is supporting the education of the students belonging to economically backward classes through the following schemes:

- **Fee Waiver/remission in Indian Institute of Technology (IITs):** Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Physically Handicapped students are given complete fee waiver. Full remission of fee is provided to those students whose parental income is less than Rs.1 lakh per annum and two third fee remissions are provided to those students whose parental income is between Rs.1 lakh to 5 lakh per annum.
- **Vidya Lakshmi Portal:-** The Portal is a single window IT platform which provides the students with the information about the different loan schemes and facilitates online application and tracking the status of their loan application. Through the portal, education loan to 9354 students have been disbursed till date. The URL of the portal is <https://www.vidyalakshmi.co.in/Students/index>.
- **Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme, 2009:** Under the Educational Loan Scheme of the Indian Banks' Association, full Interest Subsidy is provided for the period of moratorium (course period+1 year) on the maximum loan amount of Rs. 10 lakh, taken by the economically weaker students, for pursuing Technical/Professional courses in India. Since the inception of the scheme, 26,83,532 students have benefitted and Rs. 9408.52 crore has been provided towards interest subsidy.
- **Special Scheme of Construction of Women's Hostel for College and University:-** Under the scheme, Women's Hostels in Colleges and Universities are being constructed with the objective to increase the reach of women from far-off areas to join good universities and colleges thereby increasing the representation of women in higher education. In 40 Central Universities, 223 women's hostels have been constructed.
- **Scholarships**
 - (i) **Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students:** Financial assistance of Rs. 10000/- per annum for the first three years and Rs. 20,000/- per annum for the fourth and fifth year, is provided to the eligible economically backward students, for pursuing higher studies.
 - (ii) **Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir:** Financial assistance is provided to the eligible economically backward students from Jammu & Kashmir, to pursue higher education outside the state. Under the scheme, scholarship towards academic fee and maintenance allowance is provided.
 - (iii) **National Means-Cum Merit Scholarship Scheme:** Scholarships for an amount of Rs. 6,000 per annum is provided to the meritorious economically backward students, with the objective to encourage them to continue their study at secondary and senior secondary stages.
 - (iv) **Pragati Scheme:** The scheme aims to encourage economically backward girls, to pursue technical education at Diploma and Degree level. Scholarship is provided towards tuition fees and contingency.

(v) **Saksham Scheme:** The scheme aims to encourage economically backward differently abled students, to pursue technical education at Diploma and Degree level. Scholarship is provided towards tuition fees and contingency.

(vi) **Ishan Uday:** Under the scheme, scholarship is provided to the economically backward students from the North East Region for pursuing Under Graduate General/Professional courses.
