

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5521
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.04.2018**

NET Fellowship

5521. SHRIMATI KOTHAPALLI GEETHA:

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

(a) whether the Government is aware that some Dalit students at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) have alleged discrimination based on caste and their research grant is not extended and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether since the total period of National Eligibility Test (NET) and NET fellowship combined cannot exceed five years as per University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines and some students have already availed on non-NET fellowship for three years and five months and NET fellowship for the remaining period, there are some technical issues involved in it and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the students have to refund the amount which was sanctioned to them to go abroad but instead spent the money for other purposes;

(d) if so, whether some students fellowship has been stopped and they have been asked to return the money they took from the centre for field trip and if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government is aware that JNU would look into the grievances of the Dalit scholars who are facing various problems while undergoing research; and

(f) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to resolve those issues related to Dalit students?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) to (f) Jawaharlal Nehru University has reported that no such allegations of discrimination from Dalit students/researcher have been received. Total period of fellowships is five years for non-NET/NET and the fellowship is disbursed accordingly. The advance taken for field trip/travel purpose has to be spent for this purpose only and in case it is utilized for any other purpose it has to be refunded. In case any amount is due to the University, the same could be adjusted against the fellowship of the students. The University is sensitive to the grievances of the Dalit students.
