

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. *199
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.07.2018**

DR. AMBEDKAR FOUNDATION

***199. SHRI MALYADRI SRIRAM:**

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

- (a) whether Dr. Ambedkar Foundation and its affiliates have called for applications for various grants, incentives and other payments across the country since 2016;
- (b) if so, the number of such applications received from Andhra Pradesh for grants and incentives for inter-caste marriages etc.;
- (c) the number of applications examined and cleared and the action initiated in this regard;
- (d) the steps proposed to address each and every application sent to the Foundation by Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) the action taken by the Foundation to streamline its activities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT)

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

Statement in answer to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.199 for 31.7.2018 by ShriMalyadriSriram regarding Dr. Ambedkar Foundation.

(a): Dr.Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) is an autonomous organization functioning under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, administering Schemes and Programmes aimed to serve the welfare of target population belonging to SCs and STs. The Schemes are for promoting Inter-caste marriage, Medical-Aid Scheme, National Merit Award Scheme, National Essay Competition/Quiz Scheme etc. The desirous applicants apply under these schemes and only in certain schemes i.e. National Award & International Award, the Foundation calls for the candidature through Advertisement.

(b) and (c): A total number of 64 applications during the year 2016-17 and 96 applications during 2017-2018, seeking incentives under Inter-Caste Marriage Scheme were received from Andhra Pradesh.Out of 64 applications received during the year 2016-17, after due examination, 3 proposals were finally approved and an amount of Rs. 7.50 lac was sanctioned. Similarly, out of 96 applications in 2017-2018, after due consideration 30 proposals were approved and a total amount of Rs. 75.00 lac was released to the applicants belonging to the State of Andhra Pradesh. The position in respect of schemes of Dr.Ambedkar Foundation for the state of Andhra Pradesh is as under:

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	F.Y. 2016-17			F.Y. 2017-18		
		No of applicants	No. of beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)	No of applicants	No. of beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)
1	Dr.Ambedkar National Relief for Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribes victims Atrocities	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	Dr.Ambedkar Scheme for Social Integration through Inter-Caste Marriages	64	03	7.50	96	30	75.00
3	Celebration of Birth Anniversaries of Great Saints	47	02	0.60	5	-	-
4	Ambedkar Chairs (in the State of AP)	02	02	18.17	-	-	-
5	Dr.Ambedkar Medical Aid Scheme	02	-	-	-	-	-

(d): All the applications received by Dr. Ambedkar Foundation are scrutinized and if they meet the mandatory requirement as per the Scheme, are processed for approval and final release of the grants/incentives/relief. The deficiencies are intimated to the applicants in order to provide the necessary documents/recommendations to expeditiously process the proposals.

(e): Action taken to streamline its activities by Dr.Ambedkar Foundation –

- (i) Income ceiling was removed from the inter-caste marriage Scheme;
- (ii) For the Medical Aid Scheme, the procedures was simplified, income limit enhanced, mandatory documents required for processing such proposals was minimized;
- (iii) Documents were received on self-attestation.
- (iv) Accepting the information/documents/information received through whatsapp, e-mail, SMS, online etc.