

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 429
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2019**

PENDING FUNDS UNDER SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES

429. SHRI SANTOKH SINGH CHAUDHARY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has received complaints from certain States, including Punjab, regarding the release of pending funds under various scholarship schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether non-disbursal of scholarships to students has led to difficulties in gaining admissions to educational institutions and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the reasons for not releasing the scholarship funds; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to release the funds at the earliest?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) to (d) Yes, Madam. Proposals have been received from some States/UTs including Punjab for release of pending funds under Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste students (PMS-SC).

The Scheme is open ended with no limit on number of eligible beneficiaries and amount of tuition fee charged by the education Institutions. Due Central Assistance is released to States/UTs based on their complete proposal, utilization certificates, audit reports etc. and availability of funds. The arrears, if any, are considered for release in subsequent years.

As per PMS-SC guidelines, the states/UTs will frame modalities regarding periodical and timely release of scholarship to students' accounts, so that student can pay the fee to the institution on time. Advisory has been issued to States/UTs time to time to ensure that eligible students are not denied admission.
