

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1473
TO BE REPLIED ON 01.07.2019

SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF ST STUDENTS

1473. KUMARI SHOBHA KARANDLAJE:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of funds allocated during the last three years to implement the “National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students”;
- (b) the eligibility criteria, tenure and financial assistance provided under the Fellowship;
- (c) the number and details of Scheduled Tribe candidates awarded the scholarship annually for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D and M.Phil plus Ph.D during the last three years;
- (d) the details of Fellowship amount released under the scheme and the achievements of the scheme during that period; and
- (e) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure that fellowship amount is released to students in time directly into their accounts by Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

- (a): The details of funds allocated under this Scheme of ‘National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students’ for the last three years are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE
5000.00	8000.00	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00

BE: Budget Estimates, RE: Revised Estimates

(b): The eligibility criteria, tenure and financial assistance provided under the Fellowship scheme are as follows:-

Eligibility:

1. The candidate should belong to Scheduled Tribe (ST) community.
2. The candidate should have passed the Post Graduation/Master Degree examination for being eligible for the Fellowship.
3. The candidate should get admission and registration for regular and full time M.Phil./Ph.D Courses in University / Academic Institutions which covers the following category:-
 - (i) Universities/institutions/Colleges included under section 2(f) or 12(B) or 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act.
 - (ii) Deemed to be Universities included under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 and eligible to receive grants-in-aid from UGC.
 - (iii) Universities/ Institutions/ Colleges funded by Central/ State Government.
 - (iv) Institutes of National Importance.
 - The ST students once considered eligible for the Fellowship shall not be entitled for any other scholarship of the Centre or State Government the same study.
 - The fellowship shall be payable once the student has secured admission and started the research work.
4. Duration:The maximum duration for which the scholarships are available is given below:
 - i) M.Phil - 2 years
 - ii) Ph.D exclusively - 5 years
 - iii) M.Phil + Ph.D - 2 years (M.Phil) and 3 years (Ph.D)

5. Financial assistance:

	Fellowship	Contingency	HRA	Escorts/Reader Assistance
M.Phil	@ Rs.25000/- PM	i).Rs.10000/per year for Humanities & Social Sciences ii.Rs.12000/-per year	As per rules of the University/	Rs.2000/-p.m in case of physically

		for Science, Engineering Technology	Institutions/ Colleges	handicapped and blind candidates for all the subjects
Ph.D	@ Rs.28000/- PM	i).Rs.20500 per year for Humanities & Social Sciences ii). Rs.25000 per year for Science, Engineering Technology		

(c): Under the scheme, the total number of fresh fellowships each year is 750. The selection of award of Fellowship is based on merit and there is no State/University-wise allocation/ ceiling on number of slots under the scheme.

(d) &(e): The details of fellowship amount released Scheduled Tribe candidates awarded the Fellowship under the "National Fellowship" component of the scheme 'National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students' during the last three years are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
Expenditure	Beneficiaries	Expenditure	Beneficiaries	Expenditure	Beneficiaries
7312.25	2197	7022.00	2078	8208.91	2456

With the efforts made by the Ministry since 2017-18 number of applications has been increased and all the 750 fellowship slots are now filled up. The Ministry has started implementing the Scheme directly from the year 2017-18 onwards. For this purpose a dedicated portal has been designed in the Ministry for online applications so as to ensure that fellowship amount is released to students in time directly into their accounts in DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) mode. Further, the scheme has been integrated with Public Financial Management System (PFMS) and DBT Bharat Portal.
