

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *232
ANSWERED ON 22.12.2022

SCHOLARSHIP TO MINORITY STUDENTS

*232. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:
ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to discontinue pre-matric scholarship for minority students studying in classes one to eight;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has noted the widespread objection against this decision and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to withdraw the decision to discontinue pre-matric scholarship up to eighth standard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

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

STATEMENT AS REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION *232 FOR ANSWER ON 22.12.2022 BY SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL AND ADV. ADOOR PRAKASH REGARDING SCHOLARSHIP TO MINORITY STUDENTS

(a) to (e): Ministry of Minority Affairs implements Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for students from weaker economic background belonging to the 6 notified minority communities, namely, Buddhist, Christian, Jain, Muslim, Parsi and Sikh. The coverage under the scheme has been modified from 2022-23 and made applicable for classes IX and X only as the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory elementary education (classes I to VIII) to each and every child. This modification has also been done to harmonize the Scheme with the identical Scholarship Schemes implemented by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs and hence there is no proposal to withdraw the decision of discontinuation of Pre-Matric Scholarship up to eighth standard.
