

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1031
TO BE ANSWERED ON 13.12.2022**

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR OBCs

1031. DR. PON GAUTHAM SIGAMANI:

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

- (a) whether thousands of disabled, scheduled castes and other backward classes, Ph.D scholars have not received their national fellowship since April and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government will disburse the National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes and for Other Backward Classes instead of University Grants Commission and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the National Fellowship for persons with disabilities is disbursed through bank's scholarship portal by the Government and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY)**

- (a): In so far as disbursement of fellowship under National Fellowship scheme for Scheduled Castes (NFSC), National Fellowship Scheme for OBC (NFOBC) and National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities (NFPwD) being run by this Ministry is concerned, there has been disbursement of fellowship payments till November 2022 in case of NFSC, till September 2022 in case of NFOBC and NFPwD to the eligible scholars.
- (b): Yes, Sir. It is a fact that till September, 2022, National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes and for Other Backward Classes was being implemented through UGC. However, under the revised procedure for release of funds through Central Nodal Agency (CNA), NFSC and NFOBC schemes are now being implemented by National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) and National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) respectively w.e.f. 1st October, 2022. Further, Rs.85.00 crore has been released to the concerned implementing agency for disbursement of fellowship to the NFSC beneficiaries during 2022-23 and Rs. 45.84 crore has been released to the concerned implementing agency for disbursement of fellowship to the NFOBC beneficiaries upto 3rd quarter of 2022-23. The central assistance is released to implementing agencies viz. NSFDC in case of NFSC and NBCFDC in case of NFOBC on quarterly basis.
- (c): Disbursement of Fellowship under National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities (NFPwD) scheme is done through Canara Bank's Scholarship web portal (<https://scholarship.canarabank.in/scholar>).
