

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2320
ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023

Merit-cum-Means Scholarship

2320. SHRI ANTO ANTONY:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to discontinue/stop Merit-cum-Means (MCM) Scholarship for the students of minority communities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the scholarship for the year 2022-23 have been paid or not;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government would like to continue this facility to those students who are already availing this scholarship till the completion of their course and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has any data regarding the quantum of funds disbursed as scholarships to students; and
- (g) if so, the quantum of funds disbursed as scholarship during the last five years and the current year, year and State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): The Government has implemented various schemes for the welfare and upliftment of every strata, including minorities, especially the economically weaker and lesser privileged sections of the society, through various schemes of the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Rural Development.

Ministry of Minority Affairs has specifically implemented various schemes, including Pre-Matric, Post Matric and Merit-cum-Means Scholarship schemes, across the country for socio-economic and educational empowerment of the six notified minority communities.

The Ministry has assigned the task of 'Monitoring and Evaluation of Central Government Minority Scholarship Scheme' to National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), wherein some irregularities have been noticed. The Ministry has taken action for reverification of the applicants in a transparent manner to weed out the irregularities.

(e) to (g):The details are available in the website of this Ministry www.minorityaffairs.gov.in.
