

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2034**  
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023

**Income Criteria for Scholarship Schemes**

2034. SHRI SYED IMTIAZ JALEEL:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revise the income criteria for the parents to avail the scholarship schemes for minority communities so that the benefits are accessible to more students and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government proposes an interest subsidy on educational loans for the student pursuing higher education in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the funds distributed to the beneficiaries under 'Padho Pardesh' scheme, State-wise; and
- (d) the details of the placement of the students of the minority communities who completed technical education assisted by educational loan?

**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 different Ministries. 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. All aspects including revision of income criteria for the parents are looked into by the Government.

The National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC), a PSU under Ministry of Minority Affairs, provides educational loan for education abroad, at low rate of interest, exclusively to students belonging to minority communities. It has also been observed that benefits of interest subsidy that got accrued to the beneficiaries under the Padho Pardesh scheme were limited and also that there is an overlap with other similar schemes being implemented by other Ministries viz. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry Of Tribal Affairs, which are applicable to eligible minority community students as well. In view of the aforesaid overlap, limited benefits and ease of availing education loans on low rate of interest, it has been decided to discontinue Padho Pardesh Scheme from 2022-23 onward. The number of minority students benefited under education loan subsidy for overseas studies during the last five years, are at Annexure.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2034 FOR 14.12.2023 REGARDING 'INCOME  
CRITERIA FOR SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES'**

**State/UT-wise number of beneficiaries under Padho Pardesh Scheme**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>State/ UT</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	74	75	72	91	81
2	Assam	7	7	5	6	1
3	Bihar	2	8	12	11	8
4	Chandigarh	4	5	4	3	2
5	Chhattisgarh	11	11	6	3	1
6	Daman & Diu	0	1	2	0	0
7	Delhi	7	12	20	19	13
8	Goa	8	14	15	13	4
9	Gujarat	91	120	129	103	82
10	Haryana	13	17	15	14	12
11	Himachal Pradesh	2	2	3	1	0
12	Jammu & Kashmir	28	72	80	132	202
13	Jharkhand	0	3	8	8	6
14	Karnataka	129	211	289	275	229
15	Kerala	715	1138	1734	2236	3359
16	Madhya Pradesh	74	101	106	82	51
17	Maharashtra	250	297	322	300	265
18	Meghalaya	1	2	1	0	0
19	Mizoram	0	2	1	0	0
20	Odisha	2	5	7	4	5
21	Puducherry	1	5	11	12	9
22	Punjab	58	81	82	59	74
23	Rajasthan	25	37	32	27	24
24	Tamil Nadu	108	147	155	133	108
25	Telangana	57	79	72	63	53
26	Uttar Pradesh	33	31	36	30	15
27	Uttarakhand	5	5	4	12	7
28	West Bengal	6	7	15	19	11
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1711</b>	<b>2495</b>	<b>3238</b>	<b>3656</b>	<b>4622</b>

Source of Data: Canara Bank