

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3014
ANSWERED ON 21.12.2023

FAKE BENEFICIARIES UNDER MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP

3014. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR SINGH:
SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA:
SHRI KUNWAR PUSHPENDRA SINGH CHANDEL:
SHRI SUNIL BABURAO MENDHE:
SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:
SHRI PRATHAP SIMHA:

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of reports citing fake beneficiaries under the Minority Scholarships at the State level and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the States with the highest percentage of minority scholarship misuse?

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

(a) to (b): 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.

Ministry has examined the implementation of Scholarship schemes and certain gaps were found, which were further analyzed and also corroborated by All India Performance Audit Report. Taking cognizance of the same, the Ministry entrusted a third party to carry out Impact Evaluation study and Physical Verification of Institutes and applicants of Scholarship Scheme. On physical verification of 1572 institutions, about 830 institutes have been found to be fake/ partial fake or non-functional. The findings of the study indicated gross irregularities with instances where benefit of Scholarship Schemes is not reaching to the targeted beneficiaries. The Government has referred the matter to CBI for thorough investigation and FIR has been registered by CBI. The State of Uttar Pradesh has the highest percentage of fake applicants.
