GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-77

ANSWERED ON- 04/12/2023

Promotion of Global Competitiveness among Post graduate Students

77. SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any programmes at the national level to promote global competitiveness among post graduate students, Tribal University students to compete globally with international-standard education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are national-level initiatives in place to ensure that tribal students from diverse States such as Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh, have access to educational offerings at par with those provided by the Tribal University; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (Dr. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (d): To promote and encourage higher education among Scheduled Tribes (ST) at post graduate level, the National Fellowship and Scholarship Schemes for Higher Education of ST Students are being fully funded and administered by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (M/o TA). The National Overseas Scholarship for ST students is another Central Sector Scheme, fully funded and administered by the M/o TA, through Ministry of External Affairs to facilitate eligible ST students for pursuing Master's Degree, Ph.D and Post-Doctoral Research in top 1000 World ranking Universities abroad.

The Ministry of Education is also implementing three Central Sector Schemes under the umbrella scheme "Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan (PM-USP), Yojana", namely (i) PM-USP Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students (CSSS); (ii) PM-USP Special Scholarship Scheme for Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh (SSS for J&K and Ladakh) (iii) PM-USP Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme (CSIS) for all categories of students in the country, including the students from STs to get financial assistance for pursuing higher education in India as per the schematic norms of these schemes.

The Government has already notified the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 to provide for the reservation in admission of the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Other Backward Classes. Further, to supplement the already existing University eco system of Central Universities in the Country, which provide access to tribal students for educational courses, the Government has also established the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh and Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh, Vizianagaram, Andhra Pradesh for ensuring higher education and research facilities for the tribal population in India. These Universities can collaborate with national and international educational institutions.