

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3246  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.12.2019**

**Merit Scholarship Scheme**

**3246. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:**

Will the Minister of **HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT** be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for the Government not to implement Merit Scholarship Scheme for top 2,000 JEE rank holders during 2017-18 and 2018-19;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to implement the above scheme in 2019-20; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')**

(a) to (c): The Council of the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) in its meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2015 decided to give complete fee waiver to students taking admissions in National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIST), Shibpur, whose family income is less than `1.00 lakh per annum and 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the tuition fee waiver for students with family income less than `5.00 lakh per annum in addition to complete tuition fee exemptions granted to SC / ST / PH students. This resulted in decrease in internal revenue generation of NITs and IIST.

In light of the exemptions in tuition fees structures for protecting interests of the socially and economically backward students approved by the Council and in addition very few students in top 2000 JEE ranks taking admission in NITs, the Standing Committee of the Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016 recommended scrapping of Merit Scholarship Scheme.

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