

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. *179
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.03.2020**

SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP SCHEMES FOR SC STUDENTS

***179. DR. (PROF.) KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI**

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students belonging to the Scheduled Castes who have received scholarships and fellowships under the National Fellowship Scheme for the Scheduled Castes students, Post-matric Scholarship Scheme and National Overseas Scholarship Schemes during the previous year and the current year;

(b) the funds allocated for the above-mentioned schemes;

(c) the process of application and criteria for selection of students to receive the benefits under these schemes;

(d) whether these scholarships and fellowships are awarded for all degree subjects and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government is planning to expand the purview of these schemes and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT)**

(a) to (e) Statement is laid on the floor of the House.

Statement in answer to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 179 for 3.3.2020 by DR. (PROF). KIRIT PREMJI BHAI SOLANKI regarding Scholarship and Fellowship Schemes for SC Students

(a) & (b) The number of students belonging to the Scheduled Castes who have received fellowships and scholarships under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes (NFSC) Scheme, Post-Matric Scholarship (PMS-SC) Scheme and National Overseas Scholarship (NOS) Schemes, and the funds allocated during the previous year and the current year are as below:

Scheme	Year	Number of Students selected	Funds Allocated (Rs. in Crore)
National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes students	2018-19	2311 (against 2000 slots)	240.00 Revised Estimates (RE)
	2019-20	1152 (against 1000 slots of first cycle)*	246.66 (RE)
Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Caste students	2018-19	60,29,970	6000.00 (RE)
	2019-20	The State Governments invite applications under the scheme through their online portals which remains open up to November/December of each year. Accordingly, the State Govt. submits final scholarship amount disbursed and number of beneficiaries selected in the next financial year.	2690.00(RE)
National Overseas Scholarship for SC etc. candidates	2018-19	97	15.00(RE)
	2019-20	90 (up to 25.02.2020)	20.00(RE)

*The National Fellowship Scheme provides for 2000 new Fellowships every year to Scheduled Caste (SC) students and the merit list is drawn from among the candidates who qualify University Grants Commission – National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) and Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) - UGC-NET examinations, which are held in two cycles in a year in the month of June/July and December/January.

(c) Under the NFSC, UGC-NET/ CSIR-NET qualified candidates are eligible for fellowship. These examinations are conducted twice a year. Thus, UGC being the implementing agency for the Scheme invites online applications twice a year from such candidates who have qualified the aforesaid examinations. Separate merit lists are drawn after each such examination and candidates are selected as per these lists, in the order of merit.

Post Matric Scholarship (PMS) Scheme for Scheduled Caste Students is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme and is implemented by States Government/Union Territories Administrations. The State Governments invite applications under the scheme through their respective online portals. For being eligible for scholarship the parents'/ guardians' income of the SC student from all sources should not exceed Rs. 2.50 Lakh. He/she should be studying in recognized post-matriculation or post-secondary courses at intermediate, graduate, post

graduate levels in recognized Institutions/ Universities/ Colleges meeting the criteria as prescribed under the Scheme.

For scholarships under National Overseas Scholarship scheme online applications are called through the portal <http://nosmsje.gov.in>. In order to be eligible, the prospective awardees should not be more than 35 years of age as on 1st April of the selection year. In case of Scholarship for Masters Degree abroad, minimum required qualification is Graduation Degree with 55% marks whereas for Ph.D, the minimum qualification requirement is Masters Degree with 55% marks. The total family income of the candidate from all sources should not be more than Rs. 6.00 lakh in the previous year. Not more than two children of the same parents/guardians are eligible. The candidates are selected for scholarship on 'first come first served' basis.

(d) The selections under the NFSC scheme are made on the basis of UGC-NET and CSIR-UGC-NET examinations and thus all the subjects covered under these examinations are eligible. Under the UGC-NET examination, 84 subjects of humanities including Indian and foreign languages, social sciences and a few science subjects are covered. Under the CSIR-UGC-NET examination, 5 subjects of basic sciences, namely, Life Sciences, Mathematical Sciences, Physical Sciences, Chemical Sciences and Earth, Atmospheric, Ocean & Planetary Sciences are covered.

Post Matric Scholarship for SC students is provided for inter alia, Degree and Post Graduate level courses in Medicine, Engineering, Technology, Planning, Architecture, Design, Fashion Technology, Agriculture, Veterinary & Allied Sciences, Management, Business Finance/Administration and Computer Science/Applications. Besides, the scholarship is also provided for professional courses leading to Degree.

National Overseas Scholarship for SCs etc. is granted for pursuing higher studies at Masters level courses and Ph.D. abroad in the fields of Engineering and Management, Pure Sciences and Applied Sciences, Agricultural Sciences and Medicine, International Commerce, Accounting Finance and Humanities and Social Science.

(e) At present there is no proposal for expansion these Schemes..
