GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.*261 TO BE ANSWERED ON 22.03.2022

CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES OF SCHOLARSHIP FOR SC STUDENTS

*261.*DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is implementing various Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Scholarship for Scheduled Caste (SC) students in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the total funds granted and utilized for scholarship of SC students during each of the last three years by the State Government of Maharashtra; and
- (c) the funds contributed by the State Government and the Union Government for scholarship of SC students and the number of SC students benefitted in Maharashtra during the said period?

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) to (c) in respect of Lok Sabha Starred Question no. 261 asked by Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre for answer on 22.03.2022

- (a) to (c): Yes, Sir. The Department is implementing the following two Centrally Sponsored Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Caste (SC) students in the country, including in the State of Maharashtra:
 - i. Post matric scholarships to the students belonging to scheduled castes for studies in India (PMS-SC);
 - ii. Pre- matric scholarships scheme for SC students and others

Under both the schemes scholarships are provided to SC students having parental income less than Rs.2.5 lakh per annum. PMS-SC scheme provides compulsory non-refundable fees including tuition fee of the course and academic allowance to students studying at the post matric stage i.e. from class 11 onwards. Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC students and others provides the academic allowance to eligible students studying in classes 9th and 10th.

Under the PMS-SC, no central assistance (CA) was released to the State for the years 2018-19 and 2019-20 as their demand for the year was within their committed liability. In the year 2020-21, consequent to the revision in the funding pattern of the scheme from the concept of Committed Liability of the State to a sharing ratio of 60:40 between Centre and the States, Rs.558 cr. was released to the State as CA. As per information provided by the State Government of Maharashtra, during the years 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, the expenditure made by the State was Rs. 1332.62 cr., 1053.37cr. and Rs. 372.08 cr., respectively, (which included arrears paid for previous years as well) for 5,42,646, 3,78,426 and 1,56,453 beneficiaries respectively.

Under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC Students, the State was released Rs. 179.32 cr. during 2013-14 and 2014-15. As per the information provided by the State Government, out of this amount, the State has utilized Rs. 98.59 cr. for disbursing scholarships for the years 2013-14 to 2017-18 and Rs. 23.32 cr. were utilised during the year 2019-20 for 99,200 beneficiaries. Further, no expenditure was done under the Scheme in 2018-19 and 2020-21 and no state funds were spent under the Scheme during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 as informed by the State Government. Rs. 57.40 cr. of central assistance is still available with state Government as unspent balance.
