

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.5218
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2022

National Fellowship for SC Students

5218. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether more than half a dozen Research Promotion Schemes under the UGC have been discontinued due to lack of funding;
- (b) whether the National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste students was discontinued in 2018-19 and if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the reasons of declined funding for major research projects under the UGC during the last five years thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that the scheme known as "Major Research Projects" has been discontinued after XII Plan Period. However, UGC has launched new dedicated research scheme known as Scheme for Trans-disciplinary Research for India's Developing Economy (STRIDE) in 2019 to strengthen research culture in higher educational institutions with the aim to identify young talent, strengthen research culture, build capacity, promote innovation and support trans-disciplinary research for India's developing economy and national development and to fund multi institutional network high- impact research projects in humanities and human sciences. Funds amounting to Rs. 17.28 crores have already been released under this scheme.

The UGC has informed that the scheme of National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste students is continuing since its inception.
