

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION No. 6

ANSWERED ON 22/07/2024

**SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES TO PROMOTE HIGHER EDUCATION AMONG
SC/ST/WEAKER SECTION**

*6. DR. THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOLKAPPIYAN:

DR. D RAVI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing any scholarship scheme to promote Scheduled Caste and Other Weaker Section students to pursue higher education in the country as well as abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the criteria laid down for scholarship, scheme-wise;

(c) whether the said schemes are functioning properly in rural and other remote areas dominated by SC/ST/Weaker Sections and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has any policy or scheme to provide education loan or subsidy for pursuing higher studies in the country as well as abroad and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government proposes to start more scholarship schemes for Indian students for pursuing higher studies in the country as well as abroad, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 6 FOR 22.07.2024 ASKED BY DR. THIRUMAAVALAVAN
THOLKAPPIYAN AND DR. D RAVI KUMAR, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF
PARLIAMENT REGARDING 'SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES TO PROMOTE HIGHER
EDUCATION AMONG SC/ST/WEAKER SECTION'**

(a) to (e): The Government is implementing different scholarships schemes to promote Indian students including students of Scheduled Castes and Other Weaker Sections to pursue higher education in the country and abroad. Moreover, based on requests received from friendly foreign countries/institutions, the Ministry of Education disseminates information on scholarships offered by such donor countries for Indian students of all the States and Union Territories to study abroad. The details of these schemes including the criteria laid down for scholarship are available in the following websites:

Sl. No.	Ministry/ Department	Website links
1.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	The details are available at https://socialjustice.gov.in/scheme-cat
2.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	The details are available at https://tribal.nic.in/ScholarshiP.aspx
3.	Department of Higher Education	The details are available at https://www.education.gov.in/scholarships-education-loan-0
4.	University Grants Commission	The details are available at https://www.ugc.gov.in/Home/student_Corner
5.	All India Council for Technical Education	The details are available at https://www.aicte-india.org/bureaus/rifd/Scholarship-Schemes
6.	Ministry of Minority Affairs	The details are available at https://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in/show_content.php?lang=1&level=2&ls_id=661&lid=823
7.	Department of Science and Technology	The details are available at https://dst.gov.in/inspire-scheme-innovation-science-pursuit-inspired-research

All the above-mentioned scholarship schemes are merit-based and spread across the country. All applicants from rural as well as urban areas can apply as per scheme's eligibility conditions and norms.

Education Loan is a subject matter of the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance. As per information provided by the Department of Financial Services, education loan is provided by the banks for pursuing higher studies in the country as well as abroad. The banks broadly follow the guidelines of Model Education Loan Scheme of Indian Banks' Association (IBA), last revised in 2022. The details are available at <https://www.iba.org.in/retail-banking/educational-loan-scheme.html>.

The Ministry of Education provides student financial aid in the form of interest subsidy on education loans for technical and professional courses in India under the Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Protsahan Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme as per scheme guidelines. These guidelines are available at <https://www.education.gov.in/scholarships-education-loan-4>.
