

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2247
ANSWERED ON 05.08.2024**

National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship

2247. Shri N K Premachandran:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- a) whether the Government proposes to continue the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship, if so, the details thereof;
- b) the number of students in Kerala entitled for this scholarship;
- c) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of students for scholarships, if so the details thereof;
- d) whether the Government proposes to provide opportunity to the students to apply/renew their scholarship if they fail to renew it for one year, if so, the details thereof;
- e) whether the Government proposes to make necessary changes in the portal for renewing/applying for scholarship if they fail to renew one year, if so, the details thereof; and
- f) whether the Government proposes to make necessary changes in the portal for submission of application for renewal of scholarship of such students, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHOUDHARY)**

a): Yes, Sir. The National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme which was launched in 2008 is a continuing scheme. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved continuation of the scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

b): As per the State-wise allotted quota fixed for Kerala State under the scheme, 3473 students are entitled to avail fresh scholarship at class-IX every year.

c) No, Sir. There is no proposal at present to increase the number of students for scholarships.

(d to f): NMMSS is completely boarded on National Scholarship Portal (NSP) from 2018-19, for NMMSS Exam held in 2017-18, onwards. All the students have to register on NSP and renew their application every year on NSP for the respective classes – X, XI and XII. To facilitate the process of registration, NSP has introduced One Time Registration (OTR) procedure for students applying for scholarship. There is a time frame for registration / renewal by student as well as for verification by School and District Authorities. The NSP is being operated by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) under the auspices of the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India, New Delhi. NSP being an IT based system, relies heavily on procedure and discipline to ensure timely disbursement of the scholarships, Therefore, no such proposal is under consideration for making changes in the portal to provide opportunity to those students who fail to renew for one year.
