

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF EX-SERVICEMEN WELFARE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3089
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09th August, 2024

PRIME MINISTER'S SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

3089 SHRI KESINENI SIVANATH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of beneficiaries under the Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme (PMSS) in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years;
- (b) the quantitative details on the criteria used for selecting beneficiaries under the PMSS in Andhra Pradesh and the data-driven process for verifying eligibility and disbursement of scholarships;
- (c) the details of measures taken to ensure the equitable distribution of scholarships among eligible widows and wards of deceased/ex-service personnel in Andhra Pradesh under the PMSS; and
- (d) the future plans of the Government to enhance the scholarship amount under PMSS, considering inflation and rising education costs?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

(a): The details of beneficiaries under Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years is given below:

Year	No. of Beneficiaries
2019-20	631
2020-21	508
2021-22	769
2022-23	719
2023-24	892

(b): Students who have taken admission in 1st year of authorized technical/ professional courses are eligible for PMSS. A candidate must have minimum 60% marks in minimum educational qualification (10+2/ Diploma/ Graduation as applicable). Candidates are selected in order of merit according to eligibility criteria (in order of priority) given below (i) to (vi) and percentage of marks obtained. The scholarship amount is being paid directly to the beneficiaries Aadhar linked account through Electronic Clearance System (ECS) by the bank.

Eligibility Criteria (In order of Priority)

- (i) Wards/ Widows of ESM/ Ex-Coast Guard personnel killed in action.
- (ii) Wards of ESM/ Ex-Coast Guard personnel disabled in action and boarded out of service with disability attributable to Military/ Coast Guard service.
- (iii) Wards/ Widows of ESM/ Ex-Coast Guard personnel who died while in service for causes attributable to Military/ Coast Guard Service.
- (iv) Wards of ESM/ Ex-Coast Guard personnel disabled in service with disability attributable to Military/ Coast Guard Service.
- (v) Wards of ESM/ Ex-Coast Guard personnel in receipt of gallantry awards.
- (vi) Wards of ESM/ Ex-Coast Guard personnel (PBOR Only).

(c): The fund for PMSS is allotted centrally for all States/UTs from National Defence Fund which is being utilized for payment to applicants from all the States/UTs. No state wise fund is allotted. The Scholarship is awarded based on merit among the wards/widows of Ex-servicemen who have applied each year. Candidates are selected in order of merit as per eligibility criteria/ priority and percentage of marks obtained. The number of scholarships have been increased from 4000 to 5500 (2750 boys and girls each) scholarships annually from Academic Year 2015-16.

(d): The scholarship amount under PMSS is enhanced from time to time. As of now there is no proposal for enhancement of scholarship amount. The details of previous enhancements are as under: -

- (i) 2006 - 07 (Initial) : Rs. 15,000 for Boys
Rs. 18,000 for Girls
- (ii) 2012 - 13 : Rs. 24,000 for Boys
Rs. 27,000 for Girls
- (iii) 2019 - 20 : Rs. 30,000 for Boys
Rs. 36,000 for Girls
