

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1028
ANSWERED ON 02/12/2024

Scholarship Scheme for OBC/NCL Students Pursuing PhD without Qualifying Net/JRF

†1028. Shri Anil Firojiya:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any specific scholarship scheme for the Other Backward Classes (OBC)/Non-Creamy Layer (NCL) students pursuing their Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) without qualifying National Eligibility Test (NET)/Junior Research Fellowship (JRF);

(b) the scholarship being provided by the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to the research students who have not qualified NET/JRF and the procedure for applying for these scholarship; and

(c) the details of specific schemes being run by the Government and other public institutions for the OBC/NCL students in order to provide them financial support during their research work?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(Dr.SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (c) As per the information received from Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), it runs Doctoral Fellowship Scheme for Indian research scholars, who are registered for Ph.D. in University Grants Commission (UGC) recognized Universities/ Deemed-to-be-Universities, Institutes of National Importance as defined by Ministry of Education/ UGC, ICSSR Research Institutes and colleges having approved Ph.D. programme. Five per cent of the total number of fellowships are available for candidates who have not qualified National Eligibility Test (NET)/ Junior Research Fellowship (JRF). Out of the five percent of fellowships allocated for Non-NET/JRF students, 27 percent fellowships are reserved for candidates coming from Other Backward Classes (OBC) Non-Creamy Layer (NCL) category. As per the information received from UGC, it also provides Non-NET fellowships to the students who are pursuing M.Phil/ Ph.D. but are not NET/JRF qualified and are not receiving financial assistance from any other source. Non-NET fellowships are provided to eligible students belonging to all categories including OBC.

Further, the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment runs an umbrella scheme i.e. Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS) under which there is a sub scheme namely National Fellowship for OBC Students. The selection for the award of NF-OBC to student is made on the basis of merit in each UGC-NET-JRF & CSIR-NET-JRF examinations.

As informed by UGC, it has no information regarding the scholarship being provided by the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to the research students who have not qualified NET/JRF and the procedure for applying for these scholarships.
