

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO.35  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2025**

**FELLOWSHIP AMOUNT UNDER NFOBC**

**\*35. SHRI M K RAGHAVAN:**

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has noticed any delay in release of fellowship amount under National Fellowship for Other Backward Classes (NFOBCs) scheme; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)**

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

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**Statement referred to in reply to the part (a) to (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 35 to be answered on 04.02.2025 regarding “Fellowship Amount under NFOBC” asked by Shri M K Raghavan**

(a) to (b): UGC, in October 2023, decided to increase the fellowship payable to JRF Scholars from Rs. 31,000/- to Rs 37,000/- per month and the fellowship payable to SRF scholars from Rs. 35,000/- to Rs 42,000/- per month. The increased rates have been implemented by UGC from January 1, 2023. The number of OBC Research Scholars selected under the National Fellowship for OBCs (NF-OBC) Scheme run by the Department has increased from 1338 to 2271. Due to the increased rates and the increase in the number of Research Scholars under the National Fellowship for Other Backward Class (NF-OBC) Scheme, in the current financial year 2024-25, Rs. 54.50 crore has been distributed to the selected Research Scholars out of the allocated Rs. 55 crore so that Research Scholars have received fellowships payable till June 2024. For enhancement of financial outlay of the scheme, this Department has sought additional allocation from the Department of Expenditure.

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