

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3746
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.08.2025**

OBJECTIVES OF SHRESHTA SCHEME

3746. SHRI RAJESH NARANBHAI CHUDASAMA:

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

- (a) the details and objectives of Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA); and
- (b) the manner in which the scheme aims to enhance educational and socio-economic conditions for the targeted group, specifically the Scheduled Castes?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)**

(a) & (b) : Under the Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA) Mode-II, financial assistance is provided to NGOs for running projects related to education of students belonging to Scheduled Castes. The Scheme broadly covers 3 types of projects namely (i) Residential Schools (ii) Non Residential Schools and (iii) Hostels, both for Primary and Secondary Students. The scheme was revised w.e.f 2021-22 as Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA) by adding a new component under Mode-I, under which every year a specified number of meritorious SC students in the country are selected for quality residential education in top-class residential High Schools through a nation-wide entrance test conducted by the National Testing Agency(NTA).

The objectives of “The Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA)” is to enhance the reach of development intervention of the Government and to fill the gap in service deficient Scheduled Castes (SCs) dominant areas, in the sector of education through the efforts of grant-in-aid to the institutions (run by NGOs) and residential high schools offering high quality education. The Scheme aims to provide environment for education and socio economic upliftment of the Scheduled Castes (SCs). Further, the Scheme provides easier access to the bright SC students to study in the best schools in the country, thereby securing their future opportunities.
