भारत सरकार

जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय

लोक सभा

अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या- †3057

उत्तर देने की तारीख- 06/08/2026

अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज छात्रवृत्ति

†3057. श्री बालाशौरी वल्लभनेनी:

क्या जनजातीय कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या अनुसूचित जनजाति (एसटी) के अभ्यर्थियों के लिए राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज छात्रवृत्ति का उद्देश्य उन्हें उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रेरित करना और सहायता प्रदान करना है और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) क्या सरकार का अनुसूचित जनजाति के अभ्यर्थियों को प्रतिवर्ष केवल बीस राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज छात्रवृत्तियां प्रदान करने का निर्णय उचित है और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या उक्त बीस छात्रवृत्तियों में से तीन छात्रवृत्तियां विशेष रूप से संवेदनशील जनजातीय समूहों (पीवीटीजी) के लिए चिह्नित हैं और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या सरकार का राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज छात्रवृत्ति योजना के अंतर्गत पात्रता हेतु वार्षिक पारिवारिक आय सीमा 6 लाख रुपये निर्धारित करने का निर्णय उचित है और यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ङ) क्या 6 लाख रुपये की वार्षिक पारिवारिक आय सीमा में संशोधन करने तथा छात्रवृत्तियों की संख्या 20 से बढ़ाकर 100 करने का कोई प्रस्ताव है, यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

उत्तर

जनजातीय कार्य राज्यमंत्री
(श्री दुर्गादास उइके)

(क): जी हाँ, यह सत्य है कि अनुसूचित जनजाति (एसटी) अभ्यर्थियों के लिए राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज (समुद्रपारीय) छात्रवृत्ति का उद्देश्य उन्हें उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करने के लिए प्रेरित करना और सहायता प्रदान करना है। जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय की केंद्रीय क्षेत्र योजना, अनुसूचित जनजाति के अभ्यर्थियों के लिए राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज (समुद्रपारीय) छात्रवृत्ति योजना के अंतर्गत, भारत के बाहर स्थित शीर्ष 1000 क्यूएस रैंक प्राप्त संस्थानों/विश्वविद्यालयों में उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त करने

हेतु मेधावी अनुसूचित जनजाति (एसटी) छात्रों को छात्रवृत्तियाँ प्रदान की जाती हैं। अंक एवं आयु मानदंड सहित उच्च शिक्षा के पाठ्यक्रमों का ब्यौरा नीचे दिया गया है:-

क्र. सं.	पाठ्यक्रम	अंक एवं शैक्षिक योग्यता	चयन वर्ष की 1 जुलाई को अधिकतम आयु
1.	पोस्ट-डॉक्टोरल अनुसंधान	पीएच.डी. के लिए छात्रवृत्ति हेतु प्रासंगिक मास्टर डिग्री में 55% अंक या समकक्ष ग्रेड	38 वर्ष
2.	पीएच.डी	प्रासंगिक मास्टर डिग्री में 55% अंक या समकक्ष ग्रेड	35 वर्ष
3.	स्नातकोत्तर (मास्टर डिग्री)	प्रासंगिक स्नातक डिग्री में 55% अंक या समकक्ष ग्रेड	32 वर्ष

चयनित अभ्यर्थियों को विदेशी विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा प्रभारित शिक्षण शुल्क, अन्य शैक्षणिक शुल्क, यात्रा व्यय के साथ निर्वाह एवं अन्य अनुदान प्रदान किए जाते हैं।

(ख): विगत में बजट आवंटन और पात्र अनुसूचित जनजाति के छात्रों से प्राप्त आवेदनों के आधार पर, राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज (समुद्रपारीय) छात्रवृत्ति के विद्यमान दिशा-निर्देशों में एक शैक्षणिक वर्ष में 20 नए छात्रों के चयन का प्रावधान निर्धारित किया गया है।

(ग): जी हाँ, यह सत्य है कि बीस छात्रवृत्तियों में से तीन विशेष रूप से संवेदनशील जनजातीय समूहों (पीवीटीजी) के लिए चिन्हित हैं। योजना के दिशा-निर्देशों की एक प्रति, जो पीवीटीजी के लिए प्रावधानों को रेखांकित करती है, अनुलग्नक-I में दी गई है।

(घ): राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज (समुद्रपारीय) छात्रवृत्ति के विद्यमान दिशा-निर्देशों में निर्धारित 6 लाख रूपये तक की वार्षिक पारिवारिक आय सीमा का मानदंड, अधिक योग्य अनुसूचित जनजाति अभ्यर्थी को लाभ पहुंचाने को उचित ठहराता है।

(ङ): वित्त वर्ष 2026-27 से 2030-31 के दौरान राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज (समुद्रपारीय) छात्रवृत्ति (एनओएस) योजना की निरंतरता हेतु व्यय वित्त आयोग का मूल्यांकन एवं अनुमोदन वर्तमान में निरंतर जारी है, जिसमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ, वार्षिक पारिवारिक आय को संशोधित करने और राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज (समुद्रपारीय) छात्रवृत्ति योजना में स्लाटों की संख्या बढ़ाने का प्रस्ताव व्यय विभाग के अनुमोदन हेतु व्यय वित्त आयोग (ईएफसी) के प्रारूप पर सम्मिलित किया गया है। उक्त व्यय वित्त आयोग (ईएफसी) में राष्ट्रीय ओवरसीज (समुद्रपारीय) छात्रवृत्ति के अंतर्गत वार्षिक आय सीमा और स्लाटों की संख्या बढ़ाने संबंधी निर्णय सक्षम प्राधिकारी के अनुमोदन के अधीन है।



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS

GUIDELINES

CENTRAL-SECTOR SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME
OF
NATIONAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP FOR ST STUDENTS

2021-22 to 2025-26

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NATIONAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ST STUDENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

It is a Central Sector Scheme of Ministry of Tribal Affairs under which scholarships are given to the meritorious Schedule Tribe (ST) students for pursuing higher education in reputed Institutes/Universities abroad. The Scheme will be implemented through the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad, Ministry of External Affairs. The provisions of this scheme guideline will be applicable from 2021-22 and onwards.

2. SALIENT FEATURE OFTHE SCHEME

2.1. SCOPE

i. Financial assistance is provided for pursuing post graduate courses (Masters, Ph. D and Post-Doctoral Research) in reputed universities across the world. Bachelor level courses in any discipline are not covered under the scheme.

ii. 20 awards every year would be sanctioned to ST students as under:

Sl. No.	Category	No. of Award
1	ST candidates	17
2	Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG)	03
	Total	20

iii. If for any specific year, successful candidates are not available to the extent prescribed for one of the above listed categories, the awards for that year would become open for the other category.

iv. 30% of the scholarship awards are earmarked for female candidates. However, in case, adequate female candidates are not available, the unutilized slots will become open for eligible male candidates.

2.2. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

(i). Qualification

Sr. No.	Course	Marks and educational qualification	Maximum Age as on 1st July of selection year
1	Post-Doctoral Research	55% marks or equivalent grade in relevant Master's Degree* with awarded Ph.D.	38 years
2	Ph. D	55% marks or equivalent grade in relevant Master's Degree	35 years
3	Master's	55% marks or equivalent grade in	32 years

Sr. No.	Course	Marks and educational qualification	Maximum Age as on 1st July of selection year
	Degree	relevant Bachelor's Degree.	

Note: The criteria of marks obtained in Bachelor's/Master's Degree will not apply to those candidates who have already obtained admissions in top 1,000 Institutes as QS World ranking of the latest available report.

(ii). One child in a family and one timeassistance

Not more than one child of the same parents will be eligible and the candidate has to furnish a self-certification to this effect. An individual is eligible for only one award and cannot be considered for any other award or same/higher level of award for the second time under the Scheme

(iii). Income Criteria

Scholarships will be paid to the students whosefamilyincome from all sources does not exceed *Rs.6,00,000/- (Rs. Six lakhs only)* per annum**.**

The family income shall be computed in the following manner: -

I. In case where both father and mother are working, the combined income of both of them from all sources shall be taken into account in computing total family income.
II. In case any other member of the family, other than father and mother, is an earning member, his or her income shall not be included in computing total family income.
III. In case only one parent is alive, the income of that parent shall be taken into account for considering total family income. If other sibling or family member is an earning member, their income shall not be included in computing total family income.
IV. In case of an orphan, supported by a guardian, income criteria shall not apply.

Note 1: *Definition of Income - Income means gross income including income from all sources without and exemption and deductions available in the Income Tax Act.*

Note 2: *Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission to course which will be valid for the entire duration of the course.*

Note 3: *The income certificate given at the time of admission should be taken in the same year for which the admission is taken. In case of salaried employee, the income of previous financial year will be considered for the purpose of eligibility. For example, if a candidate applies afresh for academic year 2021-22, the family income for financial year 2020-21 would be required.*

3.0. SUBJECTS AND SLOTS COVERED UNDER THE SCHEME

The subjects/disciplines in which student can opt for studies abroad and the number of slots available under each fieldfor grant of award are listed below: -

Field of study	Number of slots for the field of study
Pure/Applied Science/ Engineering/Technology/ Mathematics (STEM)	10
Management, Economics, Finance, Law	04
Agriculture/Medicine	04
Humanities/Social Science/Fine Arts	02

3.1. Duration of award with Financial Assistance:

Financial assistance will be provided till completion of the course/research or the prescribed duration of the course, whichever is earlier: -

Sl.No.	Course	Maximum Duration
1	Post-Doctoral Research	2 years
2	Ph. D	4 years (four years)
3	Master's Degree	1 or 2 years (One/Two years) depending upon the type and duration of the Course.

Note: Extension of stay beyond prescribed duration for levels of courses as mentioned above, will be **without** financial assistance of any kind except the air passage to return to India, if the candidate decides to come back to India on completion of the course.

3.2. Value of scholarship

Sl.No.	Scholarship Component	Details
1	Annual Maintenance Allowance	The Annual maintenance allowance in USD15,400 ($ Fifteen thousand four hundred only) in US/ Pound sterling 9,900 (£ Nine thousand nine hundred only) in United Kingdom for all level courses. For other countries, the USD or equivalent rates would be applicable.
2	Annual Contingency and Equipment Allowance	The Annual Contingency and Equipment Allowance for books/essentialapparatus/study tour/typing and binding of thesis etc. will be $ 1532 (US Dollars One thousand five hundred thirty-two only) for the candidates in US and for candidates in United Kingdom, it will be £ 1116

Sl.No.	Scholarship Component	Details
		(Pounds sterling One thousand one hundred sixteen only). For other countries, US Dollar or equivalent rates would be applicable.
3	Poll Tax	Actuals shall be paid, wherever applicable
4	Visa Fees	Actual visa fees in Indian Rupees will be paid.
5	Incidental Journey Expenses	Incidental journey expenses up to US Dollars 20 or its equivalent in Indian Rupees are permissible.
6	Fees	Tuition fees and other non-refundable fees which is required to be compulsorily paid by the student for completion of the course, as per actuals.
7	Medical Insurance Premium	Actuals as charged will be admissible. The Indian Embassy/Mission in the respective country will however examine the reasonableness of medical premium opted/claimed by the student.
8	Cost of Air Passage	Air passage grant on actual basis from India to the nearest place to the educational institution and back to India, by economy class and shortest route at best available price shall be provided.
9	Local Travel	Second class railway fare from the port of disembarkation to the place of study and back; in case of far flung places not connected by rail, bus fare from the place of residence to the nearest railway station, actual charge of crossing by ferry, air fare to the nearest rail-cum-air Station will be permissible.

Note 1: -

a. In case of unforeseen circumstances like pandemic, natural calamity, war etc., if an NOS awardee comes to India and pursues studies online, the Maintenance Allowance will be provided as per the rate of Junior Research Fellow (JRF) for Master Degree and as per the rate of Senior Research Fellow (SRF) for PhD and Post Doctorate course admissible under the scheme of National Fellowship for ST students during the online study period. The maintenance allowance asperforeign rates may be resumed as and when the awardee joins the universityabroad to continue on-campus studies.

b. In case, any NOS awardee comes to India for field study, as part of Course requirement, he would be required to take permission from the concerned Institute and Indian Embassy justifying that the field study in India is integral to successful completion of the course. The candidate will inform the Ministry by updating the details on the portal. The awardee will be provided Maintenance Allowance as per the rate of JRF for Master Degree and SRF for PhD and Post Doctorate course admissible under the schemeof National Fellowship for ST students of the Ministry

for the duration of the field study. The maintenance allowance as per foreign rates will be resumed only when the awardee joins his/her university abroad after completing field study in India. In such a situation, the candidate will be entitled for to and fro airfare only once for the entire duration of the course.

c. For the duration of the student's stay for which the student stays in India, the maintenance allowance payable abroad as per foreign rates will be proportionately reduced.

Note 2: The Students once considered for scholarship shall not be entitled for any other scholarship of the Centre/ State Govt for the same study.

Note 3. The Indian Embassy/Mission located in respective country will disburse the above listed financial assistance to the Institute and the student and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall reimburse the same to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Note 4: If the student comes to India in between the course, he will be required to duly inform, the Indian Mission and the institution of study. The awardee will, however, be required to bear to and fro journey expenses for the visit and shall also not be entitled to receive maintenance allowance under the scheme, for the period of being away from the place of his/her educational institution abroad. The maintenance allowance shall be resumed by the Indian Mission only from the date of his/her resuming same course at the same institution.

4.0. SELECTION PROCEDURE

4.1. ON-LINE APPLICATION THROUGH PORTAL

The applications for scholarships under the schemewill be invited online through National Overseas Scholarship Portal (NOSP) developed by the Ministry (overseas.tribal.gov.in). The opening and closing of the portal would be announced through an advertisement in Employment News, other prominent News Dailies, through Institutes/Universities, State Governments and through the Ministry's Portal. Applicants are advised to go through the Instruction Manual before applying online and for any query, may refer to the helpdesk module given on the portal.

4.2. REGISTRATION PROCESS:

Before filling application form online, candidates are required to register themselves on the NOSP and on Digi Locker. Aadhaar is mandatory for registration on portal. The applicant would be required to upload documents through Digi locker.

4.3. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR FILLING DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR FILLING APPLICATION FORM

Applicant will be required to upload the following documents on the portal for registration:

- Latest Coloured Passport Size Photograph

- ST certificate issued by the competent authority
- PVTG certificate issued by the competent authority (if applicable)
- 10th Certificate/Marksheet in support of Date of Birth
- Graduation / Post-Graduation mark sheet [Aggregate marks in %] /equivalent % marks in case of CGPA / Ph. D completion certificate, wherever applicable (Conversion sheet of aggregate marks into percentage to be issued by Institute/University)
- Offer of admission
- Income Certificate

The candidates need to ensure that they fulfil all the eligibility criteria at the time of applying for scholarship. If it is found that the candidate does not have the eligibility or the candidate fails to upload the required document which are mandatory to prove their eligibility, the application will be liable to be rejected.

4.4. PREPARATION OF MERIT LIST

All applications received within the stipulated period, will be scrutinized for the eligibility criteria. Separate merit list will be drawn for each field of study as mentioned in para 3.3. above. The eligible applications will be considered for award of scholarship as per the procedure given below:

a. First priority will be given to the candidates who have already got admission and are pursuing their studies in the top 1,000 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities (as per the latest QS world ranking). The merit list will be drawn based on the ranking of the Institute. In case of a tie between the QS rankings of two or more candidates, merit will be decided on the basis of marks/grades secured by the candidate in the qualifying examination for higher studies for which the scholarship has been applied for.

Note: -

If selected, the student will be entitled for scholarship prospectively from the date of issuance of award letter. No reimbursement will be made for the fee already paid by the student to the University and the expenses incurred on Insurance etc. However, the Maintenance and Contingency and Equipment allowance will be given in proportion to number of months for the remaining financial year from the date of issue of Award letter. For subsequent years, the student will be eligible for scholarship covering all fee and other expenses (mentioned in para 3.5) for the remaining duration of the course (as mentioned in para 3.4).

b. In case sufficient number of students are not selected as mentioned in para (a) above, merit list will be drawn from the candidates who have already secured preliminary letter/offer of admission from top 1,000 ranked foreign

Institutes/Universities (as per the QS world ranking) and are yet to join. Merit list will be drawn in similar manner as mentioned in para 'a' above; i.e based on the ranking of the Institute and in case of tie in ranking of university/institution, the marks/grades secured by the candidate in the qualifying examination.

c. In case sufficient students are not selected as per para "a" and "b" above, the vacant slots will be filled from among the remaining eligible candidates through personal interview by a committee of experts constituted by the Ministry. The candidates who have cleared GRE/GMAT/TOFEL etc. will be given preference.

Note: The finally selected candidates will be required to secure admission and join in one of the top 1,000 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities abroad (as per the QS world ranking) **within 2 years** from the date of communication of Award Letter. On expiry of this specified period of time, the award will automatically get cancelled.

Note:

d. In case, the candidates who are selected as per para "b" and "c" do not secure admission and join in one of the top 1,000 ranked foreign Institutes/Universities abroad within 2 years from the date of communication of selection, such unfilled seats will be carried over to the next selection year immediately after the expiry of such time period. For example, if the date of provisional award is 01.09.2019, the candidate is required to get admission latest by 30.9.2021. In case the students fail to take admission within the prescribed time limit, such slots will be carried over to the selection year 2021-22.

e. Verification of the selected candidates as per para "a" above will be done through the Indian Embassy/Mission in the respective country. Verification of the short-listed candidates as per para "b" and "c" will be done through the respective State/UT.

f. The short-listed candidates who are required to appear in Interview before the Expert Committee will be entitled to reimbursement of second-class train fare/bus fare from the place of residence to the place of interview, by shortest route.

g. Provisional merit list of eligible candidates will be posted on the Ministry's website.

4.5. CONSTITUTION OF EXPERT COMMITTEE:

The Ministry will constitute a Selection Committee with domain experts. The Chairperson and members of the committee will be entitled to be paid economy air fare and the rate of hotel accommodation and D.A. would be as admissible to them as per eligibility in their concerned department/University/Institute. Further, honorarium of Rs.2500 a day will be paid to the members. If the members of the Committee are from New Delhi then a sitting fee inclusive of travelling allowance not exceeding Rs. 5000/- a day will be payable, for each day of their participation.

5. ROLE OF INDIAN EMBASSY/MISSION ABROAD

Before releasing scholarships to the candidates, the Indian Embassies/Missions abroad shall see the overall performance/ behaviour of the candidate.

i. In order to have a better connect with the students and status of their studies the student will submit progress report on the NOS Portal once in every 6 months. The Indian Mission abroad shall obtain performance reports from the university/institution where the awardee is pursuing his/her studies for which the award was given under the scheme and update the information thereon and other relevant information such as joining reports, discontinuation of studies etc., on online portal of the Ministry (https://overseas.tribal.gov.in/) as per the prescribed format.

ii. The Mission shall inform this Ministry any serious adverse developments in case of the awardee which requires decision towards further continuation of the award or otherwise.

iii. Before leaving the country, the student will be required to take permission ofIndian Mission and inform the Ministry on the portal.

iv. The Indian Mission will also be responsible for activities as mentioned in para 4.4(e)

6. OTHER CONDITIONS

i. Selected candidates shall furnish all such documents and enter into such agreements before their departure as shall be decided by the Government of India from time to time. In case the candidate is already residing abroad, he/she shall furnish all relevant documents and enter into such agreements prior to the release of the scholarship by the Indian Mission.

ii. The candidate shall not change the course of study or research and the Institute for which scholarship has been sanctioned.

iii. It will be the responsibility of candidate to obtain the appropriate visa for a country wherein he/she intends to study.

iv. In case the awardee has received overpayment through Indian Mission abroad or any other Government agency, he/she shall refund the same to Indian Mission abroad.

v. After completion of the course, the awardee shall upload the course completion details along with brief of study in the Alumni Module of NOS portal of the Ministry before his return tickets are booked.

7. CANCELLATION OF AWARD

The award of the scholarship will be cancelled and no financial support will be provided. Also, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs may recover the already paid award amount in case of any of the following:

i. The awardee has taken admission by submitting false documents or not conforming to the guidelines governing the Scheme;

ii. The awardee returning to India without successfully completing the course for which he/she has been selected.

Note: If the failure to complete the course is due to ill-health, he would require to submit certificate of medical officer nominated by the Indian Mission abroad.

iii. The student is involved in any illegal activity or antinational activity or misconduct or associated with use of narcotic substances or involved in violation of law of the host country or in the event of any police case against the candidate.

8. LITIGATION

Any litigation on matters arising out of this scheme in India will be subject to sole jurisdiction of the courts situated in Union Territory of Delhi. The litigations arising abroad will be attended to by the Indian Missions abroad.

9. CHANGE IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE SCHEME:

The provisions of this Scheme can be changed at any time with the approval of Minister of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

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