

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2246  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2008  
RAJIV GANDHI NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP SCHEME  
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Jagannath Dr. M.

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has launched Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for ST students for pursuing M.Phil and Ph.D courses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its eligibility criteria and duration thereof;
- (c) the total amount earmarked for the scheme and actual amount disbursed during each of the last two years;
- (d) the target set and the achievements made alongwith the beneficiaries, State-wise/UTs- wise; and
- (e) the steps taken/likely to be taken for effective implementation of this scheme in the States/UTs?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KYNDIAH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b): Fellowships are provided through the University Grants Commission to ST students who have a post graduate degree, to pursue M.Phil, and Ph.D courses, in any university/institution recognized by the University Grants Commission(UGC). Up to 667 such fellowships may be awarded annually. The rate of fellowship will be at par with the UGC fellowships as amended from time to time. The maximum duration of the fellowship is 5 years.

(c) &(d) : The details of amount earmarked and disbursed, target set and number of beneficiaries during last two years are as under:

Year	Amount earmarked	Amount released	Target set	Number of beneficiaries
2005-06	Rs. 7.95 cr	Rs. 7.95 cr	667	400
2006-07	Rs. 15.90 cr	Rs. 15.90 cr	667 (existing)+667 (new)	400 (existing)+376 (new)

Fellowships are not awarded State-wise.

(e): UGC has been appointed as nodal agency for implementation of the scheme.