

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1858
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2010
GRANTS FOR SC AND OBC STUDENTS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Patil Shri A.T. Nana

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

- (a) whether grants under scholarship scheme for the students belonging to Other Backward Class (OBC)/Scheduled Caste (SC) is being given to the State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outstanding amount to be given to the State Governments during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if not, the reasons thereof;
- (d) whether State Governments including Maharashtra have spent proposal to the Centre to sanction pending amount;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps being taken by the Government to release the pending amount to the State Governments;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to formulate any concrete action plan to provide scholarship to eligible students on time; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON)

(a) to (e) Funds are released to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship for OBC students, Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Caste students and Pre Matric Scholarship to the Children of those engaged in unclean occupations. Details of funds released during the last three years and current year are enclosed at Annexure-I. Central assistance is released under these scheme on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations during each financial year. Since the proposals are examined on year to year basis, there is no amount pending to be given to State Governments/UT Administrations.

State Governments including Maharashtra have been demanding additional allocation of funds under the Scholarship Schemes for OBC students. However, funds are released on year to year basis, based on annual budgetary allocation and no arrear payments are made to the State Governments/UTs.

(f) & (g) State Governments and UT Administrations are pursued regularly to furnish suitable proposals for release of funds on time. Further, this Ministry has taken up the matter with the State Governments/UT Administrations to ensure that scholarship money is paid to students through their individual accounts in post-offices and banks and phased transition to Smart Cards in a timely manner.