

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4603
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2010
SCHOLARSHIP EXAM FOR STUDENTS
Natarajan Shri P.R.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government proposes a National Means-cum- Scholarship exam for 9th Standard students;
- (b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the number of students benefited during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether there is any delay in sanctioning the scholarships to the eligible students;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (b) The centrally sponsored National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship scheme was launched in 2008-09. Those students studying as regular students in class VIII in Government, local body and Government- aided schools and whose parental income from all sources is upto Rs. 1.5 lakh per annum are entitled to appear in the selection test under the scheme. The selected students will continue to get scholarships from class IX to class XII subject to fulfillment of certain conditions. 54564 scholarships were sanctioned to the selected students of class IX of 33 States/UTs for the year 2008-09. For the year 2009-10, 24521 selected students from 27 States/UTs were sanctioned scholarships. For the current year, scholarships have been sanctioned to 6788 students of 16 States/UTs so far.

(c) to (e) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government. The scholarships are sanctioned in favour of eligible students on receipt of the proposals from the concerned States. The amount of scholarship is deposited directly into the accounts of selected students on quarterly basis. Sometimes, there is delay in crediting the amount due to error in the bank account details provided by the States. State Bank of India has been asked to disburse the scholarships promptly after getting the correct account numbers from the State Governments.