

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5897
ANSWERED ON:08.09.2011
AVAILING OF SCHOLARSHIP SCHEMES
Mitra Shri Somendra Nath

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some Minority Organisations apprised the Government about the various problems being faced by the students while availing the scholarship schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the key problems highlighted by these organisations; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to resolve the problems of minority students and smoothly implement the scholarship schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI VINCENT H. PALA)

(a) : Yes, Madam.

(b) & (c) : Representations have been received from Minority Organizations from time to time which highlighted problems like inadequate time limit for submission of applications for scholarship schemes implemented by Ministry of Minority Affairs, delay in disbursement of scholarships, reluctance by banks in opening of zero balance accounts, etc.

(d) : Actions which have been taken by the Government to address these problems include introduction of 'Online Scholarship Management System' for Merit-cum-Means based scholarship scheme, extension of time limit for submission of fresh as well as renewal applications, stricter monitoring of scholarship schemes, etc. Schematic changes in the ongoing programmes have also been taken up before the Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission for formulating the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17).