

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:129
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2013
FELLOWSHIPS TO SCS STS
Bhagat Shri Sudarshan

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme for award of fellowships to SC/ST candidates for pursuing their higher education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the eligibility and the procedure for grant of fellowships;
- (c) the total number of SC/ST candidates benefited from this scheme during the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether a large number of SC/ST candidates are not getting the benefits of this scheme due to lack of awareness about the scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. M. MANGAPATI PALLAM RAJU)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.129 FOR 6th MARCH, 2013 ASKED BY SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT, HON'BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT REGARDING FELLOWSHIPS TO SCs/STs.

(a) :Yes, sir.

(b):The Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Schemes (RGNF) for Scheduled Caste (SC) students is funded by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The RGNF Scheme for Scheduled Tribe students is funded by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Post Doctoral Fellowship for SC/ST candidates is funded by Ministry of Human Resource Development. All these schemes are implemented by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Brief details of these fellowship schemes are given at Annexure-I.

(c):The number of candidates selected during the last three years under the above said schemes is given below :

Name of Scheme	Number of Beneficiaries		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12

Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Schemes for Scheduled Castes (Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment)	1375#	2000	2000
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Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Schemes for Scheduled Tribes (Ministry of Tribal Affairs)	702#	667	667
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Post Doctoral Fellowship for SC/ST candidates (UGC)	100	100	Selection yet to be made
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42 additional slots for SC category has been adjusted during 2010-11.

35 additional slots for ST category has been adjusted during 2010-11.

State-wise details of the fellowships awarded during the last three years, as reported by UGC, are at Annexure –II.

(d) & (e):All the slots have been utilized in full and the applications are invited through an advertisement in leading newspapers and Employment News. The same is also uploaded in the UGC Website www.ugc.ac.in. Procedure for application and sanction has also been streamlined by UGC by making the entire process web-enabled.