

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2121
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013
EXEMPTION IN FEES TO SC ST STUDENTS
Pakirappa Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the SC/ST students joining professional courses in colleges including self-financing colleges are exempted from paying fees at the time of admission and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has issued any instruction in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. Shashi Tharoor)

(a) to (c): The SC/ST students joining professional courses in colleges including self-financing colleges are not exempted from paying fees at the time of admission. However, the Supreme Court of India, in the case of the TMA Pai Foundation and subsequent judgments, has given directions to make Higher Education affordable in the country. The fees in the institutions are fixed by the State fee fixation authority of the respective State Governments. The matter regarding the exemption of fees to SC/ST students joining the professional courses/colleges including the self financing colleges is also dealt by the respective State Governments. A national level fee fixation committee has been formed to give recommendations for fixing norms and guidelines for the charging of tuition and other fees.