

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1537

ANSWERED ON:04.03.2015

SCHOLARSHIP THROUGH AADHAAR

Gavit Dr. Heena Vijaykumar;Mahadik Shri Dhananjay Bhimrao;Patil Shri Vijaysinh Mohite;Satav Shri Rajeev Shankarrao;Sule Smt. Supriya Sadanand

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has asked all States to ensure full enrolment of students from minority communities under AADHAAR so that the post matric and merit-cum-means scholarships for minorities are distributed through the direct benefit transfer method to the bank accounts of beneficiary students;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the objectives behind this move;
- (c) the response of the State Governments thereto, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government has also a plan to link pre-matric scholarship under direct benefit transfer; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for financial inclusion and faster delivery for the welfare of minority students?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) to (c): Yes Madam.

The Post-matric and Merit-cum-Means based scholarships are disbursed either through AADHAAR Payment Bridge (APB) or through National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT), directly into the bank accounts of the students through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode from 2014-15. The State Governments and Union Territories Administration have been advised that all beneficiaries' details with bank accounts of students and AADHAAR number are seeded in database to enable quick release of scholarships to genuine eligible students. This will also enable more students to avail the scholarships by eliminating duplicate payments or payment to ghost beneficiaries. However, AADHAAR is not mandatory for availing the scholarships at present.

(d) and (e): Yes Madam. From 2015-16 Pre-matric Scholarship is also proposed to be released directly to student's/ guardians bank accounts through DBT mode. State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been requested to extend all support for opening of bank accounts and AADHAAR enrollment of minority students.