

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6490
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2015
SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDENTS TO STUDY ABROAD
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government intends to provide scholarship to meritorious students to study abroad in countries like United State of America, England, Germany, etc.;
- (b) if so, the details of such scholarships and the total amount to be awarded under these scholarship programmes; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c) The Government is implementing the following schemes for providing financial assistance to meritorious students to study abroad:-

1. National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe Students: This scheme is implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to meritorious Scheduled Tribe students for pursuing higher studies of Master level courses, Ph.D. and Post Doctoral Research Programmes in foreign universities in the field of Engineering, Technology and Science whose parental income does not exceed Rs.6.lac per annum. The selected candidates are given cost of tuition and other educational fee charged by foreign universities, maintenance and other grants along with travel expenses. Physical target and financial allocation under the scheme for the year 2014-15 was 20 (17 ST and 3 Primitive Tribal Group) beneficia- ries and Rs. 1.0 Crore respectively.

2. National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Caste and OBC students:- These schemes are implemented by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in identified areas. The details of the schemes are:

i) National Overseas Scholarship for Scheduled Caste etc.: Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for pursuing Master level course and Ph.D. abroad. The family income ceiling of the candidates/parents is Rs.6.00 lac per annum. The number of awards available is 60 per annum. An amount of Rs.6.00 crore had been provided under the scheme.

ii) National Overseas Scholarship for OBC Students: This scheme is being implemented w.e.f. 2014-15. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided for pursuing Master level course and Ph.D. abroad. The family income ceiling of the candidates/parents is Rs.3.00 lac per annum. Physical target and fina- ncial allocation under the scheme for the year 2014-15 was 25 beneficiaries and Rs. 6 Crore respectively.

3. Padho Pardesh:- This scheme is implemented by Ministry of Minority Affairs. Padho Pardesh is a scheme of Interest Subsidy on educational loan on overseas studies for the meritorious and economically weaker students belonging to Mino- rity Communities. For availing the benefit of the scheme, the total income from all sources of the employed candidates or his/her parents/guardians in case of unemployed candidate shall not exceed Rs. 6.00 Lac per annum. Under the Scheme, 100% interest subsidy is provided on educational loan availed by the students, enrolled for course at Masters, M. Phil and Ph.D. levels, for overseas studies under the existing educational loan scheme of Indian Banks' Association (IBA). Physical target and financial allocation under the scheme for the year 2014-15 was 100 beneficiaries and Rs. 4 Crore respectively.

4. Overseas Doctoral and Postdoctoral fellowship:- These scheme are implemented by Department of Science and Technology in identified areas for Indian students. The details are given as under:

(i) Overseas Doctoral Fellowship: The Scheme aims to build national capacity where the talent supply of researchers in areas of interest to the country is sub-critical by providing doctoral fellowship in select areas in chosen over- seas institutions. The applicant should have completed eligible degree in India (Bachelor/Post graduate) in Science or Engineering (including Medicine, Pharma, Agriculture and related S&T areas) not earlier than preceding two year. The applicant should have got admission into doctoral research program in cho- sen areas in identified overseas top ranking universities as notified by the Board from time to time.

(ii) Overseas Postdoctoral Fellowship: The Scheme aims to build national capa- city in frontier areas of Science which are of interest to India by providing postdoctoral fellowship for a period not exceeding 2 years. The applicant should have completed Phd degree in Science and Engineering not earlier than the preceding two years from recognized institutions in India. For researchers who are in

regular employment, the 2 year period may be relaxed. The Programme admits candidates in chosen areas in identified overseas top ranking universities as notified by the Board from time to time.