

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4687

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014

SCHOLARSHIPS TO MENTALLY RETARDED PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED STUDENTS

Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the Government provides scholarships to mentally retarded/ physically challenged students to pursue their studies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the amount of scholarship disbursed, State-wise;
- (c) if not, whether the Government is considering to start a scholarship scheme for these students; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b): Scholarships are provided to mentally retarded/ physically challenged students to pursue their studies under three scholarship schemes, namely, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF), Scholarship Schemes under Trust Fund and National Fund. Number of scholarships given under these schemes are 200, 2000 and 500 respectively. Under Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF), total amount released during 2012-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15 is Rs. 11.655 crores. State-wise amount released under Scholarship Scheme (Trust Fund) for the academic year 2011-12 to 2013-14 and Scholarship Scheme (National Fund) for the academic year 2009-10 to 2013-14 is annexed.

(c) & (d): Do not arise.