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Title: Regarding timely release of Central Funds under Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme.

SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH (JHALAWAR-BARAN) : Post Matric Scholarship Schemes (PMS) for SC and ST are Centrally Sponsored Schemes. With the opening up of educational institutions in the private sector and the increasing number of students pursuing higher education, the demand for scholarships has been increasing every year. The available fund has not been increasing to that extent and hence liabilities are building up. Funds over and above the committed liabilities of the 12th Five Year Plan should be borne by both Central and State Governments. In Rajasthan, the state government has provided its share of liabilities for the year 2014-15 but the Central Government is yet to provide the full funding for this purpose (to clear liabilities). For 2014-15, an amount of Rs.155.18 crores is pending collectively from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment under the SC scholarship and Ministry of Tribal Affairs under the ST Scholarship. For 2015-16, proposals have been sent to the respective Ministries, (Rs.333.13 crore for SC PMS and Rs.195.30 crores for ST PMS) as part of the Central assistance. Therefore, I request both the Ministries to provide the required funds for both the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 as requested above by the Rajasthan State Government.