

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2686  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.03.2018

**Higher Education**

2686. SHRI RAJESH PANDEY:

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

(a) whether the Government has launched schemes to help students from backward communities to pursue higher education in the educational institutions of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)

(a) & (b): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that it has been implementing the scheme of National Fellowship for students of Other Backward Classes (OBC) as entrusted and funded by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for providing financial assistance to selected candidates under Direct Beneficiary Transfer (DBT) mode through Public Financial Management System (PFMS) based on recommendations of the Expert Committee who execute selection process on merit basis for pursuing M.Phil. / Ph.D. research on full time / regular basis in Universities / Institutions / Colleges.

The Department of Higher Education has a scheme called Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme on education loan for students belonging to Economically Weaker Sections. The objective of the Scheme is to encourage poor students aspiring to pursue Higher Education especially in Technical and Professional education. Government of India bears full interest subsidy during the Moratorium period.

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