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Title: Regarding change in funding pattern of Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste students.

DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH (BARGARH): Madam Speaker, I fully associate with Shrimati Teacher on the need to bring in Women's Reservation Bill. The UPA Government in 2004 and 2009, and the NDA Government in 2014 promised to provide 33 per cent of reservation for women in State Assemblies and Parliament. The State Assembly of Odisha has unanimously passed a resolution in favour of providing 33 per cent reservation to women in State Assemblies and Parliament and the Hon. Chief of Minister of Odisha has also urged upon the Central Government to pass a resolution in this regard. ...(*Interruptions*)

Madam, I now raise the matter of abrupt change made by the Central Government in the funding pattern under Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste students. ...(*Interruptions*)

The Government of Odisha attaches highest priority to provide quality education to weaker sections of the society, particularly ST and SC students. Approximately two lakh SC students are provided post-matric scholarships for higher education in Odisha. The Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme is a Centrally-sponsored scheme wherein until 2016-17 the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment was providing about 90 per cent while the State Government was bearing the remaining 10 per cent of the actual expenditure. ...(*Interruptions*) However, recently the funding pattern has been changed. In the above context, I would request the Government of India to restore the funding pattern of

90:10 between the Centre and the States for smooth implementation of the post-matric scholarship programme for Scheduled Caste students. ...  
(Interruptions)

**माननीय अध्यक्ष:** बस, अब हो गया। आप सभी एक-एक मिनट में अपनी बात पूरा कीजिए।

...(व्यवधान)

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): Madam Speaker, approximately two lakh SC students have been benefitted from the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme in Odisha. The Central Government was giving funds to the extent of Rs.240 crore and the State was spending about Rs.25 crore. ...*(Interruptions)* But suddenly there is a change by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment of the Union Government by which the financial burden on the State has gone to about Rs.250 crore and the Central Government's burden has come down to Rs.20 crore. ...*(Interruptions)* I would urge upon the Government of India and the concerned Ministry to go back to the 90:10 funding pattern so that the Scheduled Caste students of the State of Odisha are not deprived of this facility and they can continue with higher education. ...*(Interruptions)*

**माननीय अध्यक्ष:** आप सभी बैठिए। मैं सभी को बोलने के लिए एक-एक मिनट समय दूंगी।

...(व्यवधान)

