



IRREGULARITIES IN PRE-MATRIC AND POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 16 DEC 2025 5:15PM by PIB Delhi

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) implements the Centrally sponsored schemes of Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Others through State Government/Union Territory Administrations on Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode w.e.f 2021-22 and 2022-23 respectively. Central share is released directly into the Aadhaar seeded bank account of the beneficiaries. The aforementioned schemes are open-ended and demand driven for the eligible students of all the recognised institutions across India. Release of central share is contingent upon States/UTs transmitting their State/UT share paid data to the Central National Scholarship Portal (NSP).

Complaints are received regarding irregularities in implementation of above schemes which are immediately forwarded to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations being the implementing agencies for taking remedial action. States/UTs following due procedure take appropriate administrative actions on such complaints/representations. To eliminate the irregularities and misuse of funds, Government of India introduced Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) through which the benefits are released directly to their Aadhar seeded bank accounts.

The schemes have undergone reforms for timely delivery, comprehensive accountability, continuous monitoring and transparency to bring transformative impact on the poorest SC households. Through web-based system, monitoring and disbursement of scholarships at the Centre/State level is done to the Aadhaar seeded bank accounts of the beneficiaries directly through DBT to ensure that misuse of funds is eliminated

Periodic reviews of the aforementioned schemes are conducted through meetings at the National, Regional, and State levels, as well as through field visits. Additionally, various National conferences /ChintanShivirs are organised to assess the performance of these schemes, which are attended by Union and State Ministers, senior officers, and other officials from both the Centre and the States.

Further, there are no complaints of irregularities and corruption received in implementation of Pre-Matric and Post Matric Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Tribes (STs).

This information was provided by UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT, SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE, in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha today.

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