



Record Scholarship Disbursements Reflect Government's Commitment to Educational Empowerment of Scheduled Caste Students: MoS for Social Justice and Empowerment Shri Ramdas Athawale in Written Reply in Lok Sabha

Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme Benefits Over 48 Lakh SC Students with central assistance amounting to ₹5,562.23 Crores

Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme Benefits Over 26 Lakh SC Students. With Central Assistance Amounting To ₹562.36 Crore

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 22 JUL 2026 5:57PM by PIB Delhi

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the **Post-Matric Scholarship (PMS) Scheme** and the **Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs and Others** to provide financial assistance to Scheduled Caste (SC) students pursuing education at various levels. These centrally sponsored scholarship schemes aim to promote educational inclusion, reduce financial barriers and ensure that deserving students are able to continue their studies with adequate financial support.

This information was given by Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment **Shri Ramdas Athawale** in a written reply to Member of Parliament Shri Navaskani K in Lok Sabha.

RECORD SCHOLARSHIP DISBURSEMENTS

Reflect Government's Commitment to Educational Empowerment of Scheduled Caste Students

PARLIAMENT MONSOON SESSION



Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme Benefits Over 48 Lakh SC Students;
Direct Benefit Transfer Ensures Transparent and Timely Assistance



The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing the Post-Matric Scholarship (PMS) Scheme and the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs and Others through States and Union Territories to support the educational aspirations of Scheduled Caste students.

This information was given by Hon'ble Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment **Shri Ramdas Athawale** in a written reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 286.

New Delhi, July 21, 2026

POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME (PMS)



Revised in 2020-21.
Ensuring higher financial support and wider coverage for SC students pursuing post-matriculation studies.



Nearly **48 LAKH** SC students benefited annually in recent years



48,04,208 beneficiaries supported in 2024-25

Central assistance in 2024-25
₹5,562.23 crore

PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR SCs AND OTHERS



Revised in 2021-22.
Extending financial support to lakhs of SC students at pre-matriculation level.



Since implementation of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) from 2022-23, scholarship disbursement has become more transparent, accountable and efficient.

DIRECT BENEFIT TRANSFER (DBT) – ENSURING TRANSPARENCY & TIMELY DELIVERY



1 Eligible student applies online



2 Verification by State/UT authorities



3 Scholarship amount approved by Ministry



4 Amount transferred directly to Aadhaar-seeded bank account of student



DBT ensures transparent, accountable and timely delivery of scholarship benefits.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- Post-Matric Scholarship central assistance increased from ₹1,930.38 crore to ₹6,186.96 crore (2025-26).
- Nearly 48 lakh Scheduled Caste students benefited annually under the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme in recent years.

- 48,04,208 beneficiaries received scholarships under the Post-Matric Scheme in 2024-25.
- ₹562.36 crore released under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme in 2025-26, benefiting 26,79,049 students.
- Scholarship amounts are transferred directly into Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts through the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system, ensuring transparency and timely delivery.



OUR COMMITMENT

The Government's sustained investment in scholarship programmes underscores its commitment to ensuring that no deserving Scheduled Caste student is deprived of education due to financial constraints. By expanding scholarship coverage and leveraging technology through DBT, the Ministry continues to promote educational inclusion, social justice and equitable access to quality education for Scheduled Caste students across the country.

Empowering Education. Enabling Equality. Building an Inclusive India.

The Minister informed the House that the **Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme** was revised during **2020-21**, while the **Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs and Others** was revised in **2021-22**. To ensure transparent, efficient and timely delivery of scholarship assistance, the Government has adopted the **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** mechanism, under which scholarship amounts are credited directly into the Aadhaar-seeded bank accounts of eligible beneficiaries, the statement added.

The written reply further stated that the reforms have resulted in a significant increase in financial assistance under the **Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme**. The Central assistance released under the scheme increased from **₹1,930.38 crores in 2021-22** to **₹6,186.96 crores in 2025-26**. The scheme has consistently benefited nearly **48 lakh Scheduled Caste students annually** in recent years. During **2024-25**, a total of **48,04,208 beneficiaries** received scholarships with central assistance amounting to **₹5,562.23 crore**.

The Minister further informed the House that under the **Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs and Others**, the Government has continued extending financial support to lakhs of students. During **2025-26**, central assistance amounting to **₹562.36 crore** was released, benefiting **26,79,049 students**. Since the implementation of the **Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)** system under the scheme from **2022-23**, scholarship disbursement has become more transparent, accountable and efficient.

The Government continues to strengthen educational opportunities for Scheduled Caste students through enhanced scholarship support and technology-enabled delivery mechanisms. By expanding coverage, increasing financial assistance and ensuring transparent transfer of benefits through DBT, the Ministry remains committed to promoting educational empowerment, social justice and equitable access to quality education for Scheduled Caste students across the country.

PR – 025 TAR/KV/GA

(रिलीज आईडी: 2287841) आगंतुक पटल : 1115

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