



From Financial Barriers to Doctoral Achievement: Shewani Kumari's Journey towards Academic Excellence

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Financial help and support can make higher education and advanced research feasible and possible for students from socially and economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Fellowship assistance can provide the stability required to meet academic expenses, continue research and work towards long-term professional goals.

Shewani Kumari, a 29-year-old scholar from the Scheduled Caste community, overcame financial, social and educational barriers to complete her Ph.D. in Sociology. She is presently working as a lecturer and aspires to become an Assistant Professor.

Coming from a family with limited income, Shewani faced considerable difficulty in meeting the costs of higher education and research. Expenses related to tuition, books, research materials, travel and other academic activities placed a significant burden on the family and created uncertainty about the continuation of her studies.

Limited access to academic resources, professional guidance and quality educational opportunities added to these challenges. Social and geographical limitations also restricted her exposure to advanced academic and career opportunities.

Despite these barriers, Shewani remained committed to her education. She viewed academic achievement as a means of building a better future for her family and improving its socio-economic condition through professional success.

Financial assistance through the NFSDC Fellowship for Higher Education and Research became an important source of support in her academic journey. She received Rs. 31,000 per month as a Junior Research Fellow and Rs. 35,000 per month as a Senior Research Fellow.

The fellowship helped her meet essential educational and research expenses and enabled her to continue her work with greater financial stability. It also provided encouragement and strengthened her confidence to pursue her academic goals.

With the support of the fellowship and her sustained determination, Shewani successfully completed her Ph.D. in Sociology and gained teaching experience. These achievements have strengthened her academic and professional position.

SUCCESS STORY

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS (NFSC)

FROM FINANCIAL BARRIERS TO DOCTORAL ACHIEVEMENT

SHEWANI KUMARI

29 YEARS | SCHEDULED CASTE LECTURER | Ph.D. IN SOCIOLOGY



NFSC FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

- ₹31,000 per month as JRF
- ₹35,000 per month as SRF
- Higher education and research support



Ministry of
Social Justice and
Empowerment
Government of India



CHALLENGE

Limited family income made higher education, books, research materials and travel difficult.



FELLOWSHIP SUPPORT

Financial assistance enabled her to continue research with confidence and stability.



ACHIEVEMENT

Completed her Ph.D. in Sociology and gained valuable teaching experience.



ASPIRATION

To become an Assistant Professor and build a better future through education.

“ The fellowship gave me the financial support and confidence to complete my Ph.D. and move closer to my dream of becoming an Assistant Professor. ”

DETERMINATION.

EDUCATION.

EMPOWERMENT.

At present, Shewani is working as a lecturer and progressing towards her aspiration of becoming an Assistant Professor. Her journey demonstrates how timely financial assistance can enable scholars from disadvantaged communities to overcome structural barriers and pursue advanced education.

Expressing her wish to move ahead for next level in professional career, **Shewani Kumari said**, “*The fellowship gave me the financial support and confidence to continue my research and complete my Ph.D. Today, as a lecturer, I am closer to fulfilling my dream of becoming an Assistant Professor and creating a better future through education.*”

Shewani's success reflects the transformative role of fellowship support in expanding access to research and professional opportunities. Her achievement is an example of perseverance strengthened by institutional assistance and educational opportunity.

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