



From Financial Assistance to Academic Excellence

KarimNagar Telangana's Minakashi's Journey towards Higher Education, Social Empowerment

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Financial assistance can play an important role in enabling students from disadvantaged communities to pursue higher education, overcome financial constraints and build confidence to achieve their academic aspirations. Targeted support can also create opportunities for beneficiaries to inspire others in their communities to pursue advanced education.

Minakashi, a 36-year-old PhD Research Scholar belonging to the Scheduled Caste (SC) community, aspired to build a career in teaching, research and the scientific field at a reputed university. Financial instability, however, posed a significant challenge in continuing her higher studies.

Coming from a community where access to higher education remains limited, Minakashi faced barriers related to financial resources, confidence and access to opportunities. The lack of adequate support made it difficult for many members of her community to pursue higher education with confidence.

During 2022–25, under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students (NFSC) Scheme, Minakashi received financial assistance of Rs. 11 lakh. The support enabled her to continue and complete her higher education without the burden of financial constraints.

Today, Minakashi stands as an example of how targeted financial assistance can create opportunities for academic advancement and social empowerment. Her journey has helped inspire other students from economically disadvantaged and socially marginalized communities to pursue higher education with greater confidence.

SUCCESS STORY

NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS (NFSC) SCHEME

FROM FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

MINAKASHI'S JOURNEY TOWARDS A BRIGHTER FUTURE

STATE: TELANGANA | DISTRICT: KARIMNAGAR

BENEFICIARY:

Minakshi

TYPE OF ASSISTANCE: Financial

AMOUNT/SUPPORT PROVIDED: ₹11,00,000

AGE: 36

GENDER: Female

CATEGORY: SC

OCCUPATION/EDUCATIONAL STATUS: PhD Research Scholar



THE NFSC SCHEME MADE A DIFFERENCE

- Enabled completion of higher education;
- Created opportunities for others;
- Boosted confidence and social standing;
- Helped build a more inclusive and empowered future for the community.



Ministry of
Social Justice and
Empowerment
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CHALLENGE

Financial instability along with higher studies. Limited access to higher education, lack of dignity and reduced confidence in institutions.



ASPIRATION

To work in teaching/research/scientific field related to my subject in a well reputed university.



SCHEME SUPPORT

NFSC Scheme provided financial assistance of ₹11 lakh, enabling her to complete higher education.



IMPACT

Strengthened family's social status, inspired other students from marginalised communities and helped educate aspiring learners.

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“The NFSC Scheme gave me the financial support I needed to complete my PhD. Today, I am not just fulfilling my dream, but also helping other students from my community to dream bigger.”

”

– Minakshi

EDUCATION.

EMPOWERMENT.

EQUALITY.

Minakshi's experience reflects the impact of financial assistance under the NFSC Scheme in enabling students to overcome financial barriers, continue higher education and contribute to the aspirations of others in their communities.

Through the support received under the NFSC Scheme, Minakshi has transformed financial constraints into an opportunity for academic growth, while becoming an inspiration for other students to pursue higher education and work towards a more empowered future.

Talking about the financial support and its benefits, **Minakshi said**, *“The NFSC Scheme gave me the financial support I needed to complete my PhD. Today, I am not just fulfilling my dream, but also helping other students from my community to dream bigger.”*

The assistance extended through the NFSC Scheme helped Minakshi strengthen her confidence and pursue her academic goals. During her academic journey, she also contributed to educating students who aspired to pursue higher education but faced financial difficulties. Her experience encouraged students from disadvantaged communities to consider higher education as an achievable pathway.

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