

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1431  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.02.2019**

**NATIONAL FELLOWSHIP SCHEME FOR SCs**

**1431. SHRI MAHEISH GIRRI:**

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has approved any proposal for revision and continuation of National Fellowship Scheme for Scheduled Caste students for 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any initiative for Prevention and Treatment of Alcoholism and Substance (Drugs) Abuse; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)**

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has approved the proposal for revision and continuation of the Central Sector Scheme of National Fellowship for SC students for the period from 2017-18 to 2019-20.

The scheme provides for 2000 new Fellowships (1500 Junior Research Fellows for Humanities/Social Sciences and 500 Junior Research Fellows for Science Stream) per year to those Scheduled Caste student for undertaking advanced studies and research leading to M. Phil/ Ph. D Degrees, who have qualified in the following tests:-

- i) National Eligibility Test – Junior Research Fellowship (NET-JRF) of University Grants Commission (UGC)
- or
- ii) UGC-Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (UGC-CSIR) NET-JRF joint test

The rates of fellowship are at par with the UGC fellowships. The present rates of fellowship under the Scheme are as follows:

Stream	Monthly rate of Fellowship (Amount in Rupees)	
	J.R.F.	S.R.F.
Science, Humanities and Social Sciences	25,000	28,000
Engineering and Technology	25,000	28,000

Besides the above, various other allowances like contingency allowance, house rent allowance etc. are also provided to the selected candidates.

(c) & (d): This Ministry implements a “Central Sector Scheme of Assistance for Prevention of Alcoholism and Substance (Drug) Abuse” under which financial assistance is provided to eligible Non-Governmental Organizations, Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies etc. for, inter-alia, running and maintenance of Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCAs).

This Ministry has prepared a National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) for 2018-2023. The Plan aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy involving education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families.

The National Institute of Social Defense (NISD), an autonomous organization under this Ministry, conducts capacity building programmes, sensitization and preventive education programmes in schools and colleges on regular basis. During the year 2017-18, NISD has conducted 247 awareness generation programmes in various Schools and Universities/Colleges covering 23006 beneficiaries.

Besides, the Ministry has undertaken the following initiatives:-

i) The Ministry uses print, electronic and social media for creating awareness. Information regarding ill-effects of alcoholism and drug abuse is also disseminated in regional languages through the All India Radio programme “Sanwanti Jayen Jeevan Ki Rahen” and also through advertisements in newspapers.

ii) The Ministry celebrates the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking on 26th June every year by holding functions and organizing exhibitions to sensitize the people about the ill effects of drug abuse. National Awards are also conferred to individuals and institutions in order to recognize the efforts and encourage excellence in the field of prevention of substance abuse.

iii) The Ministry has set up a National Toll Free Drug De-addiction Helpline Number 1800-11-0031 w.e.f. 07.01.2015 to help the victims of drug abuse, their family and society at large. The Helpline has been made functional on 24 x 7 basis w.e.f. March, 2017.

\*\*\*\*