

Subject:- Calling Attention notice given by Mr. Qaiser Jamsheed Lone, Hon'ble MLC, regarding delay in release of fee dues by the Ministry of Human Resources Development (GOI) on account of the students.

####

To call the attention of the Government towards a matter of urgent public importance namely the situation that has arisen due to delay in release of fee dues by the Ministry of Human Resources Development (GOI) on account of students of J&K State who are studying outside the State under Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme in different institutions.

Reply

At present students from Jammu and Kashmir are provided scholarship for pursuing different professional/general degree courses in various colleges outside the state under Prime Minister's Special Scholarship Scheme. The scheme was introduced in the year 2011 and the details of scholarships granted under the scheme is as under:-

Year	No. of scholarships
2011-12	38
2012-13	2858
2013-14	3747
2014-15	2102

A brief of the scheme is as under:-

The Prime Minister's Special Scholarship Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, during the year 2011-12. It envisaged providing 5000 scholarships per year (250 - Medical, 250 - Engineering & 4500 - General degree Courses) with an overall financial implication of Rs 74.125 Crore. In its first year i.e. 2011-12, only 38 students could get benefit under the scheme and consequently Secretary MHRD, GOI requested the State Govt. to give wide publicity to the scheme so that the target of 5000 scholarships could be achieved. The guidelines of the scheme were further revised and admissions against two supernumerary quota seats, in the eligible institutes was introduced w.e.f 24th August, 2012, without disturbing the students who had already gained admission in various universities/colleges/institutes up to 23rd August, 2012. Supernumerary quota seats were to be administered by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the applications for the same were to be compulsorily made online through AICTE website. As a result 3340 students got benefited during the year 2012-13. In the same guidelines it was mentioned that the

"Flexibility for deciding fees to be reimbursed for certain courses rests with the Inter-Ministerial Committee, within the overall ceiling." Further, during the year 2013-14 the guidelines were further revised to the extent of including all AICTE/UGC approved institutions and also relaxing the bunching criteria within the overall ceiling of Rs. 74.125 crore per year and a total of 3747 students were supported under the scheme.

However a large number of students, especially from Kashmir valley were duped by some NGOs who promised them scholarships without taking into consideration the terms and conditions of the scheme notified in the guidelines for the implementation of the scheme. Various representations were received by the State Government as well as MHRD and the issue was taken up with the Criminal investigation department and Inspector General of police Crime Branch, J&K Jammu was requested on 24-02-2014 to register a FIR against the NGOs involved in duping the students. Pertinent to mention here, the role of the State Government till 2013-14 was restricted to giving wide publicity to the said scheme.

In order to further streamline the implementation of the said scheme the Government of India decided that 2014-15 onwards the entire process of admissions under the scholarship scheme would be administered by the AICTE through the process of counseling and the same was done during the month of August and September 2014 at S. P. College Srinagar and more than 2000 admissions were made. For the year 2014-15 the State Government (Higher Education department) was entrusted with the responsibility of facilitating AICTE throughout the process of admissions, right from inviting online applications through facilitation centers created in various Govt. Degree Colleges till the final counseling at S. P. College Srinagar.

As regards the payment of scholarship during the current year, MHRD Government of India has released funds to the tune of Rs. 25.00 crore to AICTE on account of payment for 2nd renewal of scholarship for the students of AY 2012-13 and 1st renewal of scholarship for the students of AY2013-14 vide sanction No. F.NO-15-54/2014-NS-1(AICTE) dated 24.12.2014 for further release in favour of the beneficiary institutions/students by the AICTE.


**Under Secretary to Government
Higher Education Department**

**Sd/-
(Minister for Higher Education)**