

## **Brief Write-up on Merit-cum-means based Scholarship Scheme**

The merit-cum-means scholarship scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2007. It is being implemented through State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The entire expenditure is being borne by the Central government. Scholarships are available for pursuing professional and technical courses, at under-graduate and post-graduate levels, in institutions recognized by the appropriate authority. Under the scheme 20,000 scholarships are proposed to be awarded every year in addition to the renewals.

2. 30% of these scholarships are earmarked for girl students, which may be utilized by boy students, if an adequate number of eligible girl students are not available.

3. Seventy institutes for professional and technical courses have been listed in the scheme. Eligible students from the minority communities admitted to these institutions are reimbursed full course fee. A course fee of Rs.20,000/- per annum is reimbursed to students studying in other institutions.

4. To be eligible, a student should have secured admission in any technical or professional institution, recognized by an appropriate authority. In case of students admitted without a competitive examination, students should have secured not less than 50% marks. The annual income of the family from all sources should not exceed Rs.2.50 lakhs.

### **Achievement**

5. The financial and physical achievement since the inception of the Scheme and till date are as under:-

Year	Target	No. of Scholarships		Amount (Rs. In Crore)
		actually released.	sanctioned released to female students.	
2007-08 (launched)	20,000	17,258	5,009	40.90
2008-09	20,000+ renewals	26,195	8660	64.73
2009-10	20,000+ renewals	35982	11684	97.51

### Coverage of the Scheme

6. The coverage of scholarships this year, i.e., in 2009-10 is 31 States/UTs whereas in the preceding two years the coverage was 28 and 29 States/UTs respectively. This year States like Sikkim and Nagaland, have participated in this scheme.

### **Community wise Achievement**

7. Detailed community wise achievement against fresh scholarships are as under:-

#### **Year 2007-08**

<b>Five Communities</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Muslim	14585	13843	94.91
Christian	2540	2332	91.81
Sikh	2028	1046	51.57
Buddhist	840	37	4.40
Parsi	07	00	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>20000</b>	<b>17258</b>	<b>86.29</b>

#### **Year 2008-09**

<b>Five Communities</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Muslim	14585	14137	96.92
Christian	2540	1817	71.53
Sikh	2028	1008	49.70
Buddhist	840	133	15.83
Parsi	07	04	57.14
<b>Total</b>	<b>20000</b>	<b>17099*</b>	<b>85.50</b>

#### **Year 2009-10**

<b>Five Communities</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Muslim	14585	14585	100
Christian	2540	2418	95.2
Sikh	2028	2028	100
Buddhist	840	248	29.52
Parsi	07	06	85.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>20000</b>	<b>19285*</b>	<b>96.43</b>

\*These figures do not include Renewal of Scholarships sanctioned in 2008- 09 and 2009-10.

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