

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:151  
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003  
STUDENT LOAN SCHEME BY NMDFC  
JASWANT SINGH YADAV

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

- (a) whether the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) proposes to start a student loan scheme for pursuing technical and professional education;
- (b) if so, the details of the scheme and criteria fixed for sanctioning of loan under the said scheme;
- (c) the funds provided/likely to be provided under the said scheme during 2003-04; and
- (d) the number of students benefited/likely to be benefited therefrom?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 151 FOR ANSWER ON 11.12.2003 REGARDING STUDENT LOAN SCHEME BY NMDFC ASKED BY DR. JASWANT SINGH YADAV.

(a) & (b): National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) has introduced its Educational Loan Scheme during the current financial year i.e. 2003-04 with the objective to facilitate job-oriented education amongst the weaker sections of the minorities. The Scheme is implemented through the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) of the NMDFC, nominated by the respective State Governments. The Scheme envisages a maximum loan of Rs.75,000/- for pursuing technical and professional courses of duration not exceeding 2 years. Funds for these purposes are made available to the SCAs at interest rate of 1% for lending to the beneficiaries at 3%. The loan is repayable in maximum period of five years after completion of the course. Following are the eligibility criteria under the scheme:

- (1) The applicant should belong to any of the notified minority communities i.e. Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists or Zoroastrians.
- (2) The annual family income should be below double the poverty line.
- (3) The applicant should be in age group of 16-32 years.
- (4) Confirmed admission in the intended course is essential.
- (5) Selection is strictly based on merit and preference is given to women and physically challenged candidates.

(c) & (d): As the scheme has been introduced in the current year i.e. 2003-04, the NMDFC has not made separate allocations to the State Channelising Agencies for this purpose. The SCAs have been advised to use 10% of the Annual Allocations provided to them by the NMDFC for the purpose of Educational loans. Accordingly, allocations to the extent of Rs.1090.00 lakh are available to the State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) for the year 2003-04. As on 30.11.2003, loans amounting to Rs. 22.50 lakh have been disbursed to 161 students under the Scheme.