

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1327
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2006
NATIONAL OVERSEAS SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR SC STUDENTS
Ramadass Prof. M

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

- (a) the overall progress made by the National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Castes Students for higher studies abroad;
- (b) whether there is wide disparity in the budgetary allocation made and utilisation of funds under the scheme
- (c) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (e) whether the scheme was not implemented during some of the years;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (g) whether out of the total candidates selected under this scheme from 1993-94 to 2004-05 only five were women; and
- (h) if so, the reasons for such low and under representation of women in the scheme and the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) Under the Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship, a total of 114 candidates have been selected during the period from 1993-94 to 2005-2006.

(b), (c) & (d) The budget provision and allocation is as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Budget Allocation	Expenditure	% utilization
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2003-04	100.00	70.00	70
2004-05	100.00	90.00	90
2005-06	100.00	160.00	160

The expenditure depends upon receipt of bills from the Indian Embassies.

(e) & (f) Yes Sir. The selection was not made during the years 1995-96 to 1997-98 and 2000-01 to 2003-04, as the scheme was non functional during these years for want of approval of Competent Authority.

(g) & (h) Yes, Sir. Non-receipt of sufficient applications from women candidates is one of the important reasons.