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Title: Regarding denial of scholarship to the students from minority communities under means-cum-merit scheme.

SHRI ANTO ANTONY (PATHANAMTHITTA): Hon. Speaker, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity.

I would request the Government to kindly redress the grievance of 2,000 students in the State of Kerala whose applications for the merit-cum-means scholarship have been rejected due to small technical mistake.

By this, each applicant would lose Rs. 30,000 this year. It means, there would be a loss of Rs. 6 crore to the minority students in the State of Kerala. This is against the spirit and intention of the Means-cum-Merit Scholarship.

The State Government of Kerala has also requested the Union Government to help these students. I would, therefore, humbly request the Union Government to consider the case of these students on humanitarian grounds and do the needful in availing Means-cum-Merit Scholarship in their favour.

HON. SPEAKER: Shri M.B. Rajesh and Shri P.K. Biju are allowed to associate themselves on this issue raised by Shri Anto Antony.