

Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme

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In News: A recent investigation has found that the money meant for poor students under the Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme in Jharkhand has been siphoned off and is not reaching the students.

Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme

- It is a centrally funded scholarship scheme for students in all states, which opens every year and has to be applied between August and November.
- **Aim:** To help students of minority communities viz. Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Parsis, Jains and Buddhists from families with annual income below Rs. 1 lakh.
- **Eligibility:** Students need to score at least 50% in their class exams.
- **Structure of the Scholarship:** It is given in two tiers every year to:
 - Students in class 1 to 5: Rs. 1,000 per year.
 - Students of class 6 to 10: Rs. 10,700 if a hosteller or Rs 5,700 if a day scholar.
- **Application Process:**
 - Eligible students need to register at the National Scholarship Portal (NSP) and submit educational documents, bank account details and Aadhaar numbers among other documents.
 - The scheme is online and one can apply for a fresh or renewal scholarship on the NSP or through a mobile application of NSP.

National Scholarship Portal

- It is a “one-stop” solution through which various

services, starting from student application, application receipt, verification, processing, and disbursement of various scholarships to students are facilitated.

- It is taken as Mission Mode Project (MMP) under Digital India and aims at providing a simplified, accountable, responsive and transparent system for faster and effective disbursement of scholarship to eligible applicants directly into their account through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) without any leakages.