

SHRESHTA scheme

June 7, 2022

In news– Recently, the Union Minister of Social Justice and empowerment has launched the “SHRESHTA”-Scheme for residential education for students in High school in Targeted Areas.

About the scheme-

- **The Scheme for Residential Education for Students in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA)** has been formulated with the objective to provide quality education and opportunities for even the poorest Scheduled Caste(SC) students, as per the Constitutional mandate.
- **Scheme provides for high quality education for meritorious but poor SC students in CBSE-affiliated reputed residential schools** across the country.
- Approximately 3,000 seats are provided each year for admission in class 9th and 11th and the entire cost of the school fee and residential charges are borne by the Department.
- **The students, belonging to SC, studying in class 8th and 10th** in the current academic year are eligible for availing the benefits of scheme **are selected through a transparent mechanism through a National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA (NETS)**, which is **conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA)** for admission in class 9th and 11th.
- **Students belonging to marginalised income group within the SC community, whose parental annual income is upto Rs.2.5 Lakh are eligible.**
- Successful candidates, after following the e-counselling process, are given admission in the school of their choice anywhere in the Country for their academic persuasion.
- The Ministry shall bear the total cost of the school fee and hostel charges till completion of their academic

upto class 12th.

- Thereafter the students of the scheme may avail benefits of other schemes of the Ministry for their higher education.

The objectives of the SHRESHTA are as follows:

- To enhance the reach of the development initiative of the government.
- To fill the gap in service-deprived Scheduled Castes (SCs) dominant areas in the sector of education by collaborating with voluntary organizations.
- To provide an environment for socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the Scheduled Castes (SCs).
- To provide access to high-quality education to bright Scheduled Caste (SC) students so that they can explore future opportunities.