



W.P.No. 40674 of 2025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 24.11.2025

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE Mr. JUSTICE N. ANAND VENKATESH

W.P.No.40674 of 2025
and WMP.No.45598 of 2025

Nethra.S

.... Petitioner

Vs

1.The State of Tamil Nadu

Rep. by its Principal Secretary to Government
Health and Family Welfare Department
Secretariat, Chennai – 600 009.

2.The Director of Medical Education

Kilpauk, Chennai – 600 010.

3.The Selection Committee

Directorate of Medical Education and Research
MBBS/BDS Course (Management Quota) Session 2024-2025
Kilpauk, Chennai – 600 010.

4.The Director of Tribal Welfare

Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.

5.The Dean

St.Peter's Medical College, Hospital
and Research Institute
Dr.MGR Nagar, Opp.SIPCOT II
Hosur, Krishnagiri District – 635 130.

... Respondents



WEB COPY



W.P.No. 40674 of 2025

For Petitioner : Mr.M.Radhakrishnan

For Respondents : Mr.K.Tippu Sultan
Government Advocate for R1

Mrs.M.Sneha, Special Counsel for R2 & R3

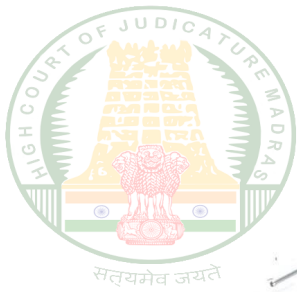
Mr.N.Naveen Kumar
Government Advocate for R4

Mr.Abishek Jenasenan for R5

ORDER

Pursuant to the earlier order passed by this Court on 19.11.2025, the matter was listed for hearing today.

2. The learned Government Advocate appearing on behalf of fourth respondent produced a communication dated 04.08.2025, addressed to the Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi, by the fourth respondent. For proper appreciation, the said communication is scanned and extracted hereunder :



WEB COPY



W.P.No. 40674 of 2025



ADI DRAVIDAR AND TRIBAL
WELFARE (ADW3) DEPARTMENT
SECRETARIAT, CHENNAI-9.

Letter No.3090/ADW-3/2025-1, Dated:04.08.2025

From
Tmt. G. Laxmi Priya, I.A.S.,
Secretary to Government.

To
The Secretary to Government of India,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs,
Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi – 110 001 (w.e).

Sir,

Sub: Adi Dravidar and Tribal Welfare Department – Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Tribes students – Revision of scheme guidelines for the next Finance Commission Cycle (2026-27 to 2030-31) – Remarks of the State – Furnished – Regarding.

Ref: Your Department Letter No.19012/06/2019-Sch (part-1), Dated:16.06.2025.

I am to invite your attention to the reference cited, wherein the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has requested the States / UTs to provide their inputs, observations, and comments for the revision of the guidelines of Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Tribes students for the next Finance Commission Cycle (FY 2026-27 to 2030-31).

2. I am therefore hereby furnishing the following views / remarks of the State of Tamil Nadu and request you to consider the remarks for revision of both Pre Matric and Post Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Tribes students for the next Finance Commission Cycle (FY 2026-27 to 2030-31).

"The Government of Tamil Nadu is executing the Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship Schemes in an equivalent manner for both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, as supported by the Government of India. Nevertheless, the difference in scholarship amounts (i.e., the scholarship amount is lower for ST compared to SC) results in inequalities among students from both categories who are enrolled in the same school / college. The variation in scholarship amounts may also force the state to implement the same scheme in two separate ways, leading to financial errors and confusion. Given that both the Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship Schemes for SC and ST are centrally funded, the State has suggested standardizing the scholarship amounts for ST equal to the scholarship amount for SC in both Pre matric and Post matric Scholarship Schemes. The insights regarding the Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for ST are outlined below:



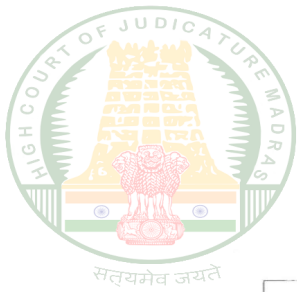
WEB COPY

Pre Matric Scholarship scheme:

Para No.	Guidelines	Remarks of Department																		
3.4	Value of Scholarship (Rs. Per annum) <table> <tr> <th>Students</th><th>Days scholar</th><th>Hosteller</th></tr> <tr> <td>Scholarship</td><td>2250</td><td>5250</td></tr> <tr> <td>Adhoc Grant</td><td>750</td><td>1000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Total</td><td>3000</td><td>6250</td></tr> </table>	Students	Days scholar	Hosteller	Scholarship	2250	5250	Adhoc Grant	750	1000	Total	3000	6250	Pre matric SC students received more scholarship amount than ST students. Scholarship amount fixed by MoSJ&E for SC students are furnished below: (Rs. Per annum) <table> <tr> <th>Students</th><th>Days scholar</th><th>Hosteller</th></tr> <tr> <td>Scholarship</td><td>3500</td><td>7000</td></tr> </table> Scholarship for ST students should be equal to the scholarship provided for SC students.	Students	Days scholar	Hosteller	Scholarship	3500	7000
Students	Days scholar	Hosteller																		
Scholarship	2250	5250																		
Adhoc Grant	750	1000																		
Total	3000	6250																		
Students	Days scholar	Hosteller																		
Scholarship	3500	7000																		

Post Matric Scholarship Scheme:

Para No.	Guidelines	Remarks of Department																														
3.4.1 (Note.1)	Fee Component In case of students studying in private sector institutes there will be a ceiling of Rs.2.50 lakhs per annum per student for Engineering Courses and Rs.6.00 lakh per annum for MBBS / MS / MD courses and Rs.1.00 lakh per annum for other courses as far as support of Government of India is concerned.	Scholarship amount ceiling fixed by Gol for Private college students should be removed and to be fixed as per the fee fixed by Fee Fixation Committee constituted by Govt / competent authority.																														
3.4.2	Maintenance allowance – Name changed as stipend and following amount fixed for ST students <table> <tr> <th>Group</th><th>Days Scholar</th><th>Hosteller</th></tr> <tr> <td>Group 1</td><td>12000</td><td>5500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Group 2</td><td>8200</td><td>5300</td></tr> <tr> <td>Group 3</td><td>5700</td><td>3000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Group 4</td><td>3800</td><td>2300</td></tr> </table>	Group	Days Scholar	Hosteller	Group 1	12000	5500	Group 2	8200	5300	Group 3	5700	3000	Group 4	3800	2300	Maintenance allowance - name has been changed as Academic allowance and following amount fixed for SC students <table> <tr> <th>Group</th><th>Days Scholar</th><th>Hosteller</th></tr> <tr> <td>Group 1</td><td>13500</td><td>7000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Group 2</td><td>9500</td><td>6500</td></tr> <tr> <td>Group 3</td><td>6000</td><td>3000</td></tr> <tr> <td>Group 4</td><td>4000</td><td>2500</td></tr> </table>	Group	Days Scholar	Hosteller	Group 1	13500	7000	Group 2	9500	6500	Group 3	6000	3000	Group 4	4000	2500
Group	Days Scholar	Hosteller																														
Group 1	12000	5500																														
Group 2	8200	5300																														
Group 3	5700	3000																														
Group 4	3800	2300																														
Group	Days Scholar	Hosteller																														
Group 1	13500	7000																														
Group 2	9500	6500																														
Group 3	6000	3000																														
Group 4	4000	2500																														



W.P.No. 40674 of 2025

WEB COPY

Scholarship for ST students should be equal to the scholarship provided for SC students.

Yours faithfully,

25.11.2025
for Secretary to Government.

Copy to:
The Director,
Tribal Welfare,
Chennai – 600 005.

3. This Court directed the learned Special Counsel appearing on behalf of the second and third respondent to take instructions on the purport of notification issued by the third respondent dated 07.11.2025, which makes it clear that the Self-Financing Colleges cannot demand any upfront fees from the students who are eligible for scholarships and students who belong to SC/SCA/ST/SCC, and any such demand from the institutions will result in initiating strict action.

4. The communication dated 04.08.2025 which was placed before this Court shows that for the medical courses (MBBS / MS /MD) a ceiling has been fixed at Rs.6.00 lakhs per annum, whereas the fees that is payable to the private institutions is Rs.21.50 lakhs. Therefore, the balance amount of Rs.15.50 lakhs is payable to the fifth respondent-College. Obviously, in view of the circular



W.P.No. 40674 of 2025

issued by the second respondent, this amount cannot be collected from the petitioner. At the same time, the fifth respondent-College cannot be deprived of this amount. Hence, necessary clarification on the above is required in order to enable this Court to pass final orders in this writ petition.

Post this writ petition on 27.11.2025, under the same caption.

24.11.2025

ds

To:

- 1.The State of Tamil Nadu
Rep. by its Principal Secretary to Government
Health and Family Welfare Department
Secretariat, Chennai – 600 009.
- 2.The Director of Medical Education
Kilpauk, Chennai – 600 010.
- 3.The Selection Committee
Directorate of Medical Education and Research
MBBS/BDS Course (Management Quota) Session 2024-2025
Kilpauk, Chennai – 600 010.
- 4.The Director of Tribal Welfare
Chepauk, Chennai – 600 005.

6/7



WEB COPY



W.P.No. 40674 of 2025

N. ANAND VENKATESH., J

ds

W.P.No.40674 of 2025
and WMP.No.45598 of 2025

24.11.2025