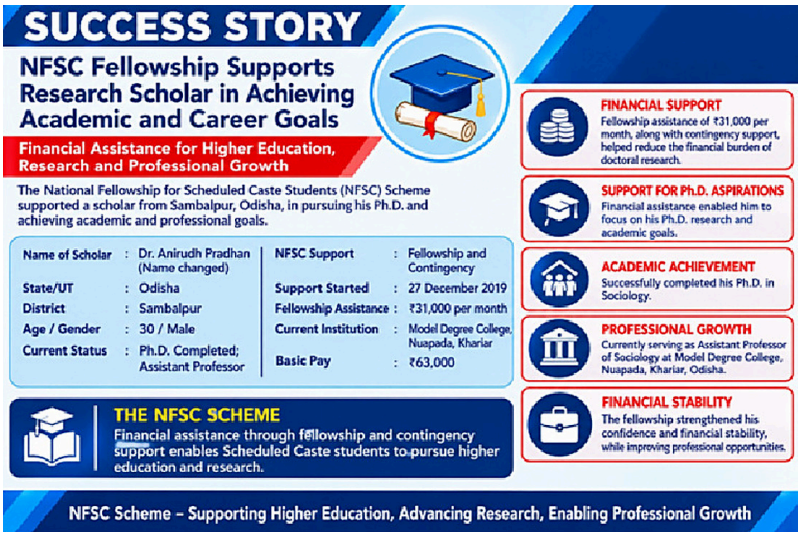
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From Financial Assistance To Academic Excellence



CHENNAI – 5 Nov, 2026 For 30 year Dr. Anirudh Pradhan (name changed), the NFSC Scheme has been an important source of support in translating his academic aspirations into professional achievement.

The fellowship enhanced his academic progress, improved his professional opportunities and strengthened his confidence and financial stability. His journey reflects the role of financial assistance in enabling students to pursue higher education and build meaningful careers.

Dr. Anirudh Pradhan, a resident of Sambalpur district in Odisha, aspired to gain knowledge and achieve excellence in his chosen field of study. However, financial constraints and the lack of proper guidance posed challenges to his pursuit of higher education. His family also faced limited access to educational and livelihood opportunities, making it difficult to meet the financial requirements of advanced studies.

A significant support in his academic journey came through the National Fellowship for Scheduled Caste Students (NFSC) Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. His fellowship assistance commenced on 27 December 2019.

Under the scheme, he received fellowship support of Rs 31,000 per month, along with contingency assistance, which helped address financial barriers and enabled him to focus on his Ph.D. research.

With the support of the fellowship and his continued academic efforts, Dr. Pradhan successfully completed his Ph.D. He is currently working as an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Model Degree College, Nuapada, Khariar, Odisha, with a basic pay of Rs 63,000.

The financial assistance provided under the NFSC Scheme helped him pursue his doctoral studies without significant financial burden. It enabled him to devote greater attention to his research and academic goals, while strengthening his confidence and providing greater financial stability during his higher education.