

Re: Need to establish SC/ST/OBC Welfare and Grievance Redressal Committees in higher educational institutions - laid

SHRIMATI APARUPA PODDAR (ARAMBAGH): The cases of student suicides are on the rise and between 2014-21, the reported number of suicides in higher educational institutions is 122. It is shocking to note that out of the 122 student who committed suicides, 41 students are from OBC community, 24 from SC community, 4 from ST community, and 3 from religious minorities. The case is even worse in premier institutes such as IITs, NITs, IIMs, and Central Universities which are essentially hostile spaces for students from marginalized communities.

This fact unveils the reality that reservation alone is not enough for guaranteeing the rights of marginalized communities, but comprehensive psychosocial efforts are the need of the hour. Therefore, I request the Government to intervene in this matter and immediately establish ? SC/ST/OBC Welfare and Grievance Redressal Committees? in every higher educational institution for safeguarding their rights before more lives are taken.