

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3598  
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2004  
RESERVED POSTS FOR SCs/STs  
Athawale Shri Ramdas

**Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to issue instructions with respect to keeping the reserved posts for SCs and STs vacant in case of not finding a suitable candidate instead of deserving for the Other Backward Class;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has received memoranda from Hon`ble Members of Parliament and other social organisations in this regard during the last three years;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS. (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI)

(a), (b) & (c): There is no proposal or instruction to fill posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by candidates belonging to the Other Backward Classes when SC/ST candidates are not available.

(d), (e) & (f): The drafting committee constituted during the three day convention of the Members of Parliament belonging to Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes recommended in December, 1999 that posts reserved for SCs and STs should be filled up only by candidates belonging to these communities and in case of non-availability of candidates among Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, these vacancies/posts should be exchanged between these communities.

Existing instructions provide that posts reserved for SCs and STs should be filled by candidates belonging to SCs and STs respectively.