

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3326

ANSWERED ON:25.04.2012

COMPLAINTS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mcleod Smt. Ingrid;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware of increasing number of complaints against discrimination by educational institutions in the country of the students on the basis of caste, religion or gender;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported during each of the last three years and the current year and the action taken by the Government against the erring institutions;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend the relevant rules so that the negligent institutions are punished suitably;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken to ensure the prevention of such discrimination?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (b): There have been reports of sporadic cases of discrimination by educational institutions. However, as education is in Concurrent List and majority of educational institutions are under the purview of the State Governments, data on such incidents is not centrally maintained by this Ministry.

(c) to (e) : The National Policy on Education, 1986 lays special emphasis on the removal of disparities and to equalize educational opportunity by attending to the specific needs of those who have been denied equality so far. The Acts of the respective Central Universities, stipulate that the university shall not discriminate on grounds of caste, religion, etc. Centrally Funded Educational Institutions (CFEIs) are autonomous bodies and therefore, as and when any such complaint is received, the same is forwarded to the concerned CFEI for appropriate action in the matter. The complaints pertaining to the educational institutions falling under the purview of the State Governments, are forwarded to the respective State Governments for redressal. Further, the Government has, from time to time, issued instructions to all State Governments and Centrally Funded Educational Institutions to curb such discriminations.

The University Grants Commission has reported that in order to give effect in letter and spirit to the provisions of the Constitution and other Statutory provisions and policies to safeguard the interests of the students belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs), and in particular to eliminate caste based discrimination against or harassment of the SC/ST students in all forms in Higher Educational Institutions, it has finalized draft UGC (Prevention of caste based Discrimination/Harassment/Victimization and Promotion of Equality in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 and the same is being put up in next meeting of University Grants Commission.