

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4299  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012  
EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES  
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**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the steps taken by the Government for the educational development of the backward classes in the country; and
- (b) the impact of the said steps on the reservation system?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Consequent upon the 93rd Amendment to Constitution in 2005, the Central Government enacted the Central Educational Institutions (Reservations in Admission) Act, 2006, which provides for reservations for SCs, STs and OBCs (non-creamy layer) in all Central Educational Institutions to the extent of 15%, 7.5% and 27% respectively. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has established Equal Opportunity Cells in colleges and universities to oversee the effective implementation of the policies and programmes for socially disadvantaged groups. The UGC has also been providing financial assistance to the universities and colleges under the schemes such as Remedial Coaching at Under Graduate and Post Graduate level, Coaching for entry into services, Coaching for National Eligibility Test (NET), Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowships for SC/ST, Post-Doctoral Fellowships for SC/ST, Post-Graduate Scholarships for SC/ST students in Professional Courses etc. This has benefitted members of socially disadvantaged classes by allowing them greater access to opportunities in the higher education system.