

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3997
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2012
DISCRIMINATION AND GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL
Panda Shri Baijayant

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

- (a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) plans to ask institutions to appoint on-campus antidiscrimination officers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether UGC also plans to put in place an equal opportunity cell and a grievance redressal committee;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether it can stop grants or cancel recognition of higher educational institutions engaging in any form of discrimination; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): University Grants Commission (UGC) has framed UGC(Prevention of Caste based Discrimination or Harassment or Victimisation and Promotion of Equality in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012 and these regulations have been approved by this Ministry. As per these Regulations, each Higher Education Institution (HEI) has to appoint an Anti-Discrimination Officer to ensure that no discrimination against SC/ST students is permitted.

(c) & (d): Under the aforesaid UGC Regulations, each HEI has to establish an Equal Opportunity Cell to promote equality for SC/ST students. Each HEI has to prescribe the procedures and mechanism to deal with and decide any complaint of discrimination, made or submitted by any SC/ST student/group of students. HEI concerned has to decide such complaints within a maximum period of 60 days from the date of receipt or submission of such complaints.

(e) & (f): The Regulations are binding on each Higher Education Institution. UGC has the mandate to enforce its Regulations to ensure maintenance of standards in higher education, including suspending the grants in case of violation of regulations.