

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:521
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2013
DISCONTINUATION OF STUDIES
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of reserved category students of higher learning institutions are discontinuing their studies in the middle of their course duration;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;and
- (c) the details of steps taken/being taken by the Government to empower them to successfully complete their studies?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) & (b) According to the information furnished by most of the Centrally Funded Higher Learning Institutions, the number of students under the reserved category who discontinue their studies are very few. This is due to various reasons such as joining other courses in other institutions, getting jobs elsewhere, poor academic performance or other personal reasons. However, the details of such decisions by students are not centrally maintained.

(c) In order to enable the reserved category students to successfully complete their studies, the institutions are providing various programmes/concessions such as freeships/ fee concessions, refresher courses, remedial coaching etc. The Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) also provide scholarships, free messing (basic menu) and pocket allowance. The IITs and Indian Institutes of Management also provide preparatory courses, need based financial assistance, remedial programmes, special classes to the weaker students and mentoring the students by the Faculty, as required.

In addition, the Government also provides reservation in admissions, scholarships, fellowships, interest subsidy on education loan, hostel facilities, etc. to the reserved category students to encourage them to pursue higher studies.