

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2589

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2013

FAKE CASTE CERTIFICATES

Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal;Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

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

- (a) whether the instances/cases of using fake caste certificates including Scheduled Tribe certificates in educational institutions for getting reservation benefits have come to the notice of the Government in various States including Maharashtra during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether investigations into these instances/cases have been ordered/ completed;
- (d) if so, whether some officials of these institutions have been found involved in such incidents and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken against the erring persons/officials in the matter; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to take any policy decision to counter these problems throughout the country and if so, the details thereof? ANSWER

Answer

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

(a) to (e): While such instances have been reported, the data about instances/cases of using fake caste certificates including Scheduled Tribe certificates in educational institutions for getting reservation benefits is not centrally maintained, since universities / educational institutions are created and controlled both by Central and State Governments. Moreover, issuance and verification of caste certificates is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments / Union Territory Administrations. Further, the Universities/educational institutions are autonomous entities, which have powers to lay down rules of admissions through ordinances. Therefore, the States/universities/educational institutions have full powers to initiate action against the officials involved in such cases.

(f): Universities/educational institutions, being autonomous bodies, are competent to take necessary action in all academic and administrative matters. The Government has no role to play in the day to day governance of the universities/educational institutions. However, the Government of India has issued various circulars from time to time for proper issuance and verification of Caste Certificates. Further, the "National Academy Depository Bill, 2011" to establish an electronic depository of the National Database of Academic Qualifications has been introduced in the Lok Sabha on 05-9-2011. The depository facilitates online verification and authentication of academic qualifications issued by academic institutions and thereby control incidence of fake certificates and degrees. Moreover, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has informed us that it has also circulated the instructions of the Supreme Court to streamline the procedure for the issuance of social status certificates (ST certificates), then scrutiny and their approval to all the State Governments / UT Administrations. The DoPT has also issued instructions to all the States / UTs regarding the verification of caste certificates by the District Authorities.