

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2316

ANSWERED ON:05.02.2014

QUOTAS FOR EDUCATION

Dhruvanarayana Shri R. ;Krishnaswamy Shri M.

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

- (a) whether the benefit of quotas for SCs in the education sector has been more beneficial to boys than girls ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise during the last three years and reasons for such a situation; and
- (c) the corrective steps being taken by the Government in this regard in coordination with State Governments?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) No, Madam. The trend in recent years indicates the opposite. The Gender Parity Index, which measures the relative access to education of boys and girls and is calculated by dividing the Male GER (Gross Enrollment Ratio) by the Female GER, of SC Students for Classes I-XII and for Higher Education in the country is given below:

| | 2008-09 | 2009-10 | 2010-11 |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Classes I - XII | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.98 |
| Higher Education | 0.66 | 0.69 | 0.84 |

Provisional

The State-wise Gender Parity Index (GPI) of SC Students at School and Higher Education level for the years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 is given at Annexures I and II.

(c) The education of girls, including those belonging to SC category, has been a high priority with the Government of India. The National commitment to provide free and compulsory education to all children in the 6-14 years age group is now a Fundamental Right of every child in India after the passage of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Government has launched various schemes / programmes for the educational development of Scheduled Castes boys & girls. At the Primary and Secondary stages, these Schemes are Early Childhood Education (ECE), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Mahila Samakhya Programme, National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Scheme for setting up of Model Schools in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) as benchmark of excellence, Mid-Day Meal Scheme, Vocationalisation of Secondary Education and Jan Shikshan Sansthan.

In Higher Education, the opening of Central Educational Institutions such as Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology, Indian Institutes of Management, Indian Institutes of Information Technology in uncovered/un-served areas, the Expansion of Polytechnics scheme and the Scheme for setting up of 374 model colleges in districts having GER for higher education less than the national average have been launched. The University Grants Commission (UGC) also implements various schemes for the educational empowerment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes such as the Establishment of Equal Opportunity Cells (EOC) for SC/ST/OBC/Minorities, Post-Doctoral Fellowships for SC/ST, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowships for SC/ST, Post-Graduate Scholarships for SC/ST students in professional courses, Establishment of Centres for Studies in Social Exclusion & Inclusive Policy, Remedial Coaching schemes for SCs, STs, OBC (non-creamy layer) & Minorities, Scheme of career oriented courses in universities and colleges, the Construction of Women's Hostels for Colleges. The UGC has also issued guidelines to Universities and Colleges for the implementation of the reservation policy of the Government of India.

In addition to this, many other Student Support Programmes such as the Construction & Running of Girls' Hostel for Students of Secondary & Higher Secondary Schools, Construction of Women's Hostel in Polytechnics and Colleges, National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS), National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE), Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students, Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Education Loan, AICTE's Post Graduate Scholarship for GATE qualified have also been initiated.

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have also launched schemes, which supplement the efforts of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, such as the Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana, the Establishment of Ashram Schools in Tribal Sub Plan Areas, Post Metric Scholarship for SC/ST students, Hostels for SC/ST girls and boys, Central Sector Scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST Students, Central Sector Scholarship of Top Class Education For SC/ST students, National Overseas Scholarship for SC/ST students, Vocational Training Centres etc.