

an>

Title: Need to direct the Government of Telangana to start admission process in Engineering and Medical Colleges by starting EAMCET counselling.

SHRI JAYADEV GALLA (GUNTUR): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the House a very serious and urgent matter. There is an inordinate delay in EAMCET counselling and I would request the Government of India to immediately intervene and direct the Government of Telangana to start EAMCET counselling at the earliest.

Admissions into engineering and medical colleges in undivided Andhra Pradesh used to take place through annual EAMCET examination, and even after the bifurcation, it was to continue. Section 95 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act says and I quote:

"In order to ensure equal opportunities for quality higher education to all students in the successor States, the existing admission quotas in all government or private, aided or unaided, institutions of higher technical and medical education in so far as it is provided under Article 371D of the Constitution, shall continue as such for a period of ten years during which the existing common admission process shall continue."

This clearly shows that admissions have to be made on the basis of Section 95 and Article 371D, and also as per the Presidential Order and 6-point formula, but the Government of Telangana has taken a decision and decided to fix 1956 as the cut-off date to determine local status of the candidates in spite of knowing that it goes against the Constitution and against the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. This intention of the government of Telangana is to delay the counseling as much as possible so that students from Seemandhra will take admissions in colleges of other States and after that, it wants to fill those seats with students from Telangana. This act is not only in violation of the above Act, but also against Article 15 of the Constitution which guarantees right to equality. Section (1) of Article 15 reads:

"The State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them."

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has sent the file to Telangana Government for its concurrence for the joint admission process as mandated under Section 95 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, but the Government of Telangana is holding up the process.

In view of the above, if immediate intervention by the Central Government is not made in commencing the EAMCET counselling, the future of lakhs of students from Seemandhra will be in limbo. So, I urge upon the hon. Home Minister to immediately, without any further delay, intervene and direct the Government of Telangana to start the admission process by starting EAMCET counselling immediately.