

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 942
(To be answered on the 21st December 2017)

Backlog Vacancies of SC/ST in AAI

942. DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT
SHRI SATAV RAJEEV
SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्री

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the number of times Airports Authority of India (AAI) conducted special recruitment drive for Group A backlog vacancies of Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST);
- (b) the number of times AAI downgraded backlog vacancies of SC/ST from higher grade to lower grade;
- (c) the number of times R&P rules of AAI were changed since its formation;
- (d) whether AAI conducted special recruitment drive for SCs/STs in the year 2003 wherein Group A Manager backlog vacancies of SC/ST were downgraded to Group B Junior Executive, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the National Commission for Schedule Caste, National Commission for Scheduled Tribe and Parliamentary Committees have recommended to upgrade all the special recruitment drive 2003 recruited employees to Manager from the date of joining;
- (f) if so, whether these recommendations were implemented by AAI; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken in this regard?

ANSWER

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

नागर विमानन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a): The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has not conducted any Special Recruitment Drive (SRD) for Group 'A' backlog vacancies for SCs & STs.

(b): AAI has once downgraded backlog vacancies of SC/ST from higher grade to lower grade. The downgrading of the post was required due to the fact that the post of Sr. Superintendent (Electronics) was advertised in December, 2000, in the pay scale of Non-Executive level-9 (NE-9) but however, appointments were made on 24.07.2001 to the post of Senior Assistant (Electronics) in the pay scale of NE-6 in line with the wage settlement signed on 13.08.2001, wherein all fresh inductions were to be made in the pay scale of NE-6. Subsequently, as per advice of National Commission for Scheduled Castes, a review was undertaken in the case pertaining to backlog vacancies and it was decided to promote the Sr. Assistant (Electronics) (NE-6) appointed in 2001 to Sr. Superintendent (Electronics) (NE-9) on completion of three years regular service from their respective dates of joining subject to their meeting the prescribed norms as against promotion from NE-6 to NE-8.

(c): Around 32 amendments were made to the R&P rules of AAI since its formation

(d): No, Madam

(e): Yes, Madam

(f) & (g): No, Madam. In this regard, the Hon'ble Minister of Civil Aviation vide D.O. letter dated 30.09.2013 conveyed to Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes that it will not be possible to upgrade SRD 2003 Junior Executive to the post of Manager from their date of joining in AAI and any such action will be prejudicial to the interest of even the SC/ST candidates recruitment to the post of Junior Executive through open competitive examination advertised/held in 1999, 2001 and 2002 before the SRD 2003 candidates. It was also conveyed that any such action will be against the principle of natural justice and right to equality in opportunity as there would be several SC/ST candidates who had not applied for post on the ground that it was a lower level post. Had the SRD been conducted for the post of Manager (E-3) post, a number of SC/ST candidates with higher qualification and experience would have applied for it. Hon'ble Minister mentioned it that considering the above facts, there is no irregularity in the recruitment in the recruitment process of SRD-2003.

Further, in the judgment pronounced by the Hon'ble Division Bench of Delhi High Court on 31.08.2015 which was subsequently upheld by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India upheld the stand taken by Airports Authority of India although the post of Manager (ATC) (E-3) level were advertised in July, 1999 and candidates were appointed in May, 2000 at Junior Executive (ATC) (E-1) level as per the policy of the AAI in vogue from 05.04.2000.
