

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 184
ANSWERED ON- 27/11/2024**

Complaints from SC/ST students in Higher educational Institutions

184 Shri Vaiko:

Shri M. Shanmugam:

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether complaints have been received from SC/ST Students Association about denial of admission to IITs and NITs because they have failed to pay the allegedly demanded inflated seat allocation fee and partial admission fee
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether corrective measures including implementation of all the fee waivers, free hostel facilities for SC and ST students taken by the concerned agencies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for compelling SC and ST students to pay the fees, when they are given the concessions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)

(a) to (e): The Central Seat Allocation Board (CSAB) and the Joint Admission Board of IITs (JAB-IITs) together constitutes Joint Seat Allocation Authority (JoSAA) for joint counselling and seat allocation to IITs and the NIT+ {NITs/ IEST/ IITs/ SPAs/ and a few other Technical Institutes funded fully or partially by the Central or State Government (Other-GFTIs)} system, based on the candidates' JEE (Advanced) rank and JEE (Main) rank. The process of counselling is centralized and seat allocation is done through an online computerized process governed by notified Business Rules.

As per the JOSAA Business Rules 2024-25, the candidate has to pay the seat acceptance fee (SAF) for continuing with the JoSAA process till the end to avail the seat in IITs or NIT+ System. The SAF is to ensure that the candidates who accept a seat are committed to join the chosen program. Otherwise, candidates who booked the seat and do not report to the institute lead to wasting of precious seats and thus denying another candidate (including those reserved for SC/ST) the opportunity to join these prestigious institutions. The SAF (for year 2024-25) for SC/ST/PwD candidate was 50% of the amount charged for other categories. SAF paid by the candidates is adjusted against the fees that they need to pay at the time of joining. Since for SC/ST students, the tuition fee in UG program is completely exempted in IITs/ NITs, SAF is adjusted against any other type of fees such as library fee, internet and ICT facility, students activities/sports facility, Training & Placement (T&P) facility etc.

IITs and NITs extend all type of fee concessions and relaxations as mandated by the Government of India to all their SC/ST students.