

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.508
ANSWERED ON 04/02/2026

Reservations in Higher Education Institutions

508 **Shri Javed Ali Khan:**

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

- (a) whether Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 provides for reservation in admission of the students of SC, ST and OBC in public sector Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) only;
- (b) if so, whether Government would bring legislation to implement Article 15(5) of Indian Constitution to provide for reservation to SC, ST, OBC and EWS categories in private HEIs in view of the fact that private HEIs have outnumbered public sector HEIs as on date;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a): The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 was notified on 03.01.2007 to provide for the reservation in admission of the students belonging to the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, and the Other Backward Classes of citizens, to certain Central Educational Institutions established, maintained or aided by the Central Government.

(b) to (d): Education is a subject in the concurrent list of the Indian Constitution. State (Public/Private) Universities are established under Acts passed by the relevant State legislatures and are governed as per the Acts, Statutes, Ordinances, Rules, and Regulations approved by the respective State Governments. It is thus the responsibility of the State Governments to make suitable legislative provisions for providing reservation in the HEIs established by them. Some States have enacted Acts for providing reservation in admissions in the State Private Universities e.g. Maharashtra Private Universities (Establishment and Regulation) Act, 2023; Karnataka Act No. 15 of 2023; the Uttar Pradesh Private Universities Act, 2019; the Bihar Private Universities Act, 2013; the Apex Professional University (Amendment) Act, 2022 of Arunachal Pradesh.

Further, as per the All India Survey on Higher Education the percentage enrolment from 2014-15 to 2022-23 (provisional) has increased by 30.6%; with 50.1% for SCs, 75% for STs and 54.6% for OBCs.