

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 639
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06.02.2017

Caste Based Discrimination

639. SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has noticed major concerns related to caste based discrimination and resultant student or teacher facing harassment in the universities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/ University-wise during the last three years and the current year; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) & (b): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has intimated that it has compiled information on cases related to caste discrimination in Universities only for the year 2015-16. As per the information provided by UGC, 102 and 40 complaints, respectively, on Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) caste based discrimination have been received by it from various Universities. Statements showing State-wise and University-wise SC and ST related caste discrimination complaints received and settled during the year 2015-16 are at Annexure-I and II, respectively.

(c) : The Government of India and University Grants Commission (UGC) are committed to ensure social equity in all academic institutions in the country. UGC is continuously advocating prevention of any sort of caste based discrimination in Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions) Regulation 2012 has been notified on 19th January, 2013 to ensure a level playing field for all students in respect of entitlement and opportunity for enjoyment of all legitimate rights in HEIs. This notification, *inter-alia*, prescribes measures for safeguarding the interest of the students without any prejudice to their caste, creed, religion,

language, ethnicity, gender, and disability and for eliminating discrimination against or harassment of any student in all forms in HEIs.

Further, UGC has issued circulars to all the Universities/Deemed to be Universities to take the following actions so as to ensure social equity and inclusion in all academic institutions:

- i) The official faculty member to be desisted from any act of discrimination against SC and ST students on the ground of their social origin.
- ii) The university/institution/college to dedicate a page on their website to lodge any such complaints of caste discrimination and to place a complaint register in the Registrar's/Principal's office for appropriate action.
- iii) Universities/colleges to ensure that no official/faculty member is involved in any activity leading to caste discrimination.
- iv) Strong and prompt actions to be taken against erring official/faculty member who indulges any kind of discriminations against any community or category of students.
- v) Universities/institutions to advise their officials/faculty members that they should be more sensitive while dealing with such incidents of caste discrimination.

Annexure-I

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.639 FOR 06-02-2017 ASKED BY SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY, M.P. REGARDING Caste Based Discrimination

State-wise and University-wise Complaints Received and Settled on the Issue of Caste Discrimination during the Year 2015-16

S.N	State	Name of University	Number of Complaints Received	Number of Complaints Settled
1	2	3	4	5
Scheduled Castes (SC)				
1	Delhi	Indira Gandhi National Open University	7	5
2	Delhi	Jawaharlal Nehru University	3	3
3	Gujarat	Gujarat University	18	18
4	Gujarat	Gujarat Ayurveda University	4	2
5	Gujarat	Saurashtra University	9	9
6	Gujarat	Central University of Gujarat	1	0
7	Haryana	Maharshi Dayanand University	6	0
8	Haryana	Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science & Technology	1	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	Eternal University	1	1
10	Jammu & Kashmir	Central University of Jammu	1	1
11	Karnataka	Karnataka Veterinary, Animal & Fisheries Science University	8	7
12	Maharashtra	Tata Institute of Social Sciences	1	1
13	Punjab	Central University of Punjab	2	2
14	Rajasthan	Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University	4	1
15	Tamilnadu	Anna University	4	4
16	Uttar Pradesh	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University	8	8
17	Uttar Pradesh	Banaras Hindu University	19	19
18	Uttar Pradesh	Chhatrapati Shahuji Maharaj Medical University	5	0
Total			102	81

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State-wise and University-wise Complaints Received and Settled on the Issue of Caste Discrimination during the Year 2015-16

S.N	State	Name of University	Number of Complaints Received	Number of Complaints Settled
1	2	3	4	5
Scheduled Tribes (ST)				
1	Delhi	Indira Gandhi National Open University	7	5
2	Gujarat	Gujarat University	10	10
3	Gujarat	Gujarat Ayurveda University	2	0
4	Gujarat	Veer Narmad South Gujarat University	2	0
5	Jammu & Kashmir	Central University of Jammu	1	1
6	Karnataka	Karnataka Veterinary , Animal & Fisheries Science University	8	7
7	Maharashtra	Tata Institute of Social Sciences	1	1
8	Tamilnadu	Anna University	4	4
9	Uttar Pradesh	Banaras Hindu University	5	5
Total			40	33