

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 349  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 5.2.2018**

**EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION CELL**

**349. SHRI MALYADRI SRIRAM:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the issues and challenges before Higher Education Sector in the country particularly problems being faced by the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Other Backward Castes (SC/ST/OBC) and Minority students in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken steps/proposes to take steps to help such students prepare for gainful employment in the central/State services and also the details about the fund allocated for this purpose during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to develop Employment Information Cell for providing information about various competitive examinations in Higher Educational Institutions in the area of their operation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(DR. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a): Yes Madam, the government is aware of the challenges/ issues confronting the Higher education Sector in the country, particularly the problems faced by the Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe/Other Backward Castes (SC/ST/OBC) and Minority students. Various policy measures are in place to address the same.

(b) to (d): As a measure to assist and prepare SC/ST/OBC (non creamy layer) and minority community students for gainful employment and contributing towards social equity & socio-economic mobility of the under-privileged sections of society, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has been conducting special coaching schemes in Universities and Colleges. It implements coaching scheme under which coaching classes are held for entry in services for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer) and Minorities Community Students to get useful employment in Group A, B or C Central services and State services or equivalent positions in the private sector. UGC has sanctioned Rs. 68.11 Crore for 2360 Universities and Colleges during the XII Plan (2012-2017). UGC also conducts coaching for National Eligibility Test (NET)/State Eligibility Test (SET) for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer) and Minorities Community Students to prepare them for these tests, which are an essential eligibility condition for becoming a Lecturer in Universities & Colleges. UGC has sanctioned Rs. 23.48 Crore for 735 Universities and Colleges during the year XII Plan (2012-2017) under the activity.

With a view to prepare SC/ST students to gain employment in Central/State Services after completing their higher technical education, All India Council for Technical Education is implementing Skill and Personality Development program for SC/ST students. A sum of Rs. 36.95 lakh to 4 institutions and Rs. 3.17 crore to 31 institutions were sanctioned during 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively under this scheme. AICTE is also implementing a new scheme PRERNA, which provides financial support to institutes making efforts to train SC/ST students for GATE etc. Performance in GATE is an important criterion for public sector employment.

Many Universities have employment information and guidance bureau/facility centres for providing information about various competitive examinations in the area of their operation.

\*\*\*\*\*