

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-474
ANSWERED ON-24/07/2023

Decrease of OBC in Gross Enrolment Ratio in HEIs

474. DR. TALARI RANGAIAH:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher Education among OBCs decreased during the last five years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to improve the GER among Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) is calculated as the Percentage of Student enrolment in a particular Social Category to the population in the 18-23 Age-Group of that Social Category. In the case of Other Backward Classes (OBC), Student enrolment is available from All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) Report, which as per latest AISHE Report, has increased continuously:

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
OBC Enrolment	1,22,99,309	1,28,33,005	1,35,91,994	1,42,49,114	1,48,21,537

(b) The Government has taken several steps to increase the Enrolment/GER of Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST) and OBC students :-

- As per the reservation policy of Government of India, the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 was notified in January, 2007, wherein it has been stipulated that 15% of seats are reserved for SC students, 7.5% for ST students, and 27% seats for OBC students in admission in Central Educational Institutions. The Government has issued instructions to the Higher Educational Institutions to ensure that reservation-related provisions of the Act passed by Parliament shall be implemented by all educational institutions in letter and spirit.

- The Government is implementing various fellowship and scholarship schemes for providing financial assistance to all categories of students including Scheduled Caste (SC), Scheduled Tribe (ST), Other Backward Class (OBC) and Minority communities. The details of these schemes including the number of slots, assistance offered and eligibility criteria are available in the following websites: -

Sl. No.	Ministry/Department	Website links
1.	Department of Higher Education	https://www.education.gov.in/pm-usp-scholarships-education-loan
2.	University Grants Commission	https://frg.ugc.ac.in
3.	All India Council for Technical Education	https://www.aicte-india.org/bureaus/rifd/Scholarship-Schemes
4.	Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment	https://socialjustice.gov.in/scheme-cat
5.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	https://tribal.nic.in/ScholarshiP.aspx
6.	Ministry of Minority Affairs	https://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in/show_content.php?lang=1&level=2&ls_id=669&lid=825

- Remedial Coaching is given to SC/ST/OBC (Non-creamy layer) and Minority Community Students to improve their knowledge, academic skills and linguistic proficiency.
- Concessions and Age-relaxations are provided to SC/ST/OBC category students in UGC- Junior Research Fellowship.
- Coaching Classes are conducted for National Eligibility Test/State Eligibility Test for SC/ST/OBC (Non-creamy layer).
- To facilitate the Students from SC/ST/OBC and rural areas:-
 - Examinations like JEE, NEET etc are being conducted in 13 Indian languages.
 - Textbooks for even professional courses like Engineering and Law are being translated in Indian languages. Some Universities have started imparting Engineering courses in Indian languages.
