

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 174
ANSWERED ON 21.07.2025**

Caste-based Discrimination/Violence in Campuses

174 Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Equal Opportunity Cells have been constituted in Central Universities as per UGC (Promotion of Equity in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2012;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of Central Universities that have created such Cells;
- (c) if not, the reasons for non-constitution of such Cells;
- (d) whether the Government maintains data on instances of caste-based discrimination in College/University campuses;
- (e) if so, the details of such incidents in Central Universities during last five years and the current year, College-wise/University-wise;
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (g) the details of support provided by the University or Government to those students who faced discrimination;
- (h) whether the Government plans to place any additional mechanisms to address grievances arising out of caste-based discrimination; and
- (i) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): The Equal Opportunity Cells have been constituted in all forty-eight Central Universities under the purview of the Ministry of Education.

(d) to (i): Central Universities under the purview of Ministry of Education are statutory autonomous organizations established under respective Central Acts of Parliament and governed by provisions of the Acts, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations made thereunder. Central Universities are sensitised from time to time to ensure that faculty and officials refrain from discriminatory acts, establish mechanisms for lodging complaints through websites or complaint registers, take prompt action against erring individuals and are also encouraged to constitute committees to address complaints of discrimination received from SC/ST/OBC students, teachers, and non-teaching staff. Ministry of Education and University Grants Commission (UGC) have taken several measures to prevent caste-based discrimination and to safeguard the interests of students coming from disadvantaged groups, including setting up of Students Grievance Redressal Committees (SGRCs) and appointment of Ombudspersons, Establishment of Equal Opportunity Cells, provisions of counselling support through counselling centres and guidelines for curbing of ragging and prevention of sexual harassment.
