

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1033
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
LIMITATION OF JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCs/STs
Acharia Shri Basudeb

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the limitation of job opportunities for SCs/STs due to shrinkage of jobs in Government or in Public Sector;
- (b) if so, the steps taken to address the growing problem; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS.(SHRI SURESH PACHOURI)

(a): The Government has made all possible efforts to ensure that job opportunities for SCs/STs do not shrink.

(b): There is a Provision of reservation for the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes in services under the Central Government including public sector undertakings, statutory, semi Government and autonomous bodies. The policy of reservation also covers voluntary agencies receiving grants-in-aid from the Government. In case of strategic sale of the public sector undertakings, the Government enters into transaction agreements, viz. share holder agreement/share purchase agreement with the prospective strategic partner. Protection of the interests of the employees is an integral part of these agreements and appropriate provisions are made in these agreements. The strategic partner, through recitals in these agreements, recognizes that the Government in relation to its employment policies follows certain principles for the benefit of the members of the scheduled castes/scheduled tribes, physically handicapped persons and other socially disadvantaged categories of the society. The strategic partner also undertakes that it shall use its best efforts to cause the company to provide adequate job opportunities for such persons. Further, in the event of any reduction in the strength of the employees of the company, the strategic partner is expected to make efforts to ensure that the physically handicapped persons, scheduled castes/scheduled tribes are retrenched at the end.

A Bill on reservation in services has been introduced in the Rajya Sabha which contains a provision that where posts in a cadre are to be abolished and the employees are required to be surrendered or their services are required to be terminated as a result thereof, a scheduled caste or scheduled tribe or an other backward class employee shall not be surrendered or his services shall not be terminated if it results in lowering the representation of the scheduled castes or the scheduled tribes or the other backward classes, as the case may be, in relation to percentage of reservation fixed for them.

(c): Does not arise.