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Over 60% OBC, SC posts vacant in IIMs

93% of ST posts of professors at Central varsities unfilled

Empty seats

The table lists the share of vacant faculty positions in the posts reserved for OBCs, SCs and STs in central institutes of higher education. For instance, in IIMs, 79% of faculty positions reserved for STs are vacant

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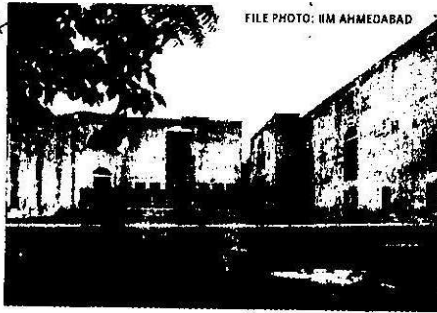
More than half of the faculty positions reserved for the OBCs in Central institutions of higher education are vacant while about 40% of those reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Tribes also remain unfilled, Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' told the Lok Sabha on Monday in a written response to a question from three Congress MPs.

The situation is particularly acute in the elite Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), where more than 60% of SC and OBC reserved positions are vacant, while almost 80% of positions re-

served for the STs have not been filled. This means that out of 24 positions reserved for the STs, only five have been filled. For the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), data has only been provided for non-faculty positions. Both the IITs and the IIMs

have been lobbying for exemption from such faculty quota requirements.

Assistant prof. posts filled
Mr. Nishank's response to another question from Congress MP N. Uttam Kumar Reddy showed that within



Institution	SC	ST	OBC
42 Central Universities	39%	42%	52%
Sanskrit Central Univ.			
IGNOU	41%	49%	67%
IITs (Non-faculty)		47%	42%
IIMs			65%
IISERs		26%	44%
IISc		5%	
Total	35%	43%	52%

the Central Universities, vacancies were higher at the level of professors. Of 709 assistant professor positions reserved for the STs at the 42 universities, more than 500 have been filled. However, when it comes to professors, only nine have been filled of

the 137 reserved for the ST candidates. This means that 93% of these posts remain unfilled. Less than 1% of the 1,062 professors in Central universities are from the ST communities.

Similarly, 64% of the 2,206 assistant professor positions reserved for the OBCs have been filled in the Central Universities. However, less than 5% of the 378 professor positions reserved for the OBCs have been filled.

Despite the high levels of vacancies, Mr. Nishank's written response to the first question claimed that, "Now, after implementation of 'The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers' Cadre) Act, 2019', the OBC reservation has been implemented at all levels."

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In the second response, Mr. Nishank noted that the Ministry of Education and University Grants Commission continuously monitor vacancies, but put the final blame on universities themselves.

"However, the onus of filling up the teaching posts lies on Central Universities, which are autonomous bodies created under Acts of Parliament," he said.

In fact, in June 2019, Un-

iversity Grants Commission had written to all Universities, giving them a six month deadline to fill up their vacancies, and warning that grants would be withheld if its directions were violated.

According to the data presented in the Lok Sabha on Monday, there are now 6,074 vacant positions at the 42 universities, of which 75% are in reserved categories.