

[6 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

West Bengal
Jalpaiguri
West Dinajpur
Maldah

Murshidabad
Nadia
South 24 Parganas
Birbhum

Pre-Examination Coaching for OBC Students

**593. SHRIMATI JAYA PRADA NAHATA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:**

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government have since launched any scheme of pre-examination coaching for students belonging to O.B.Cs. so as to enable them to compete on equal terms with other candidates in the examination leading to recruitment in Government jobs and admissions in professional courses;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many centres have since been set up in the State Andhra Pradesh and the expenditure incurred thereon during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The Government of India, recognizing the need to improve the educational and socio-economic conditions of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) launched the Scheme of Pre-Examination Coaching for Other Backward Classes. The Objective of the Scheme is to coach/train candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes to enable them to compete on equal terms in various competitive/entrance examinations covering:

- (i) Recruitment to various services under Central and State Government, Public and Private Sector Undertakings Bank, GIC, LIC, etc. and Defence Forces, State and Central Police Forces and Para-Military Forces..
- (ii) Admission to technical, vocational, engineering, medical, agricultural Management courses, etc.
- (c) No Pre-Examination Coaching Centre for OBCs has been set up in Andhra Pradesh.