Further, University Grants Commission (UGC) has intimated that it provides financial assistance to colleges covered under Sections 2(f) and 12B of the UGC ACT, 1956 to organise Remedial Coaching Classes for Undergraduate / Postgraduate level students belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) / Scheduled Tribes (ST) / Other Backward Classes (OBC) / Minority Communities. The objectives of the scheme are:–

- Improve academic skills and linguistic proficiency of the students in various subjects.

- Raise level of comprehension of students on basic subjects to provide a stronger foundation for further academic work.

- Strengthen knowledge, skills and attitudes of students in such subjects, where quantitative and qualitative techniques and laboratory activities are involved so that proper guidance and training provided under the programme may enable the students to come up to the level necessary for pursuing higher studies efficiently.

Written tests for direct recruitment

592. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to make written tests mandatory for direct recruitment to all the posts of lowest rung in Group ' A' and ' B' to ensure transparency and selection of best talents available; and

(b) if not, whether Government would take initiatives in this direction shortly and advise the recruitment agencies to adhere to the policy of selection mainly based upon written tests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No such proposal is under consideration. However, Government has already decided to discontinue the interviews for recruitments for all Group 'C', Group 'D' (which are now reclassified as Group 'C') and non-gazetted Group 'B' posts and all such equivalent posts in Ministries/ Departments/ Attached offices/ Subordinate offices/ Autonomous Bodies/ Public Sector Undertakings for the vacancy advertisements issued after 31.12.2015.