

60% of dropouts at 7 IITs from reserved categories

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Nearly 63% of the undergraduate dropouts at the top seven Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) over the past five years were from the reserved categories, according to Education Ministry data submitted in response to a question in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday.

Nearly 40% of the dropouts were from the Scheduled Castes and the Sche-

duled Tribes. In some institutions, the SC/ST share was as high as 72%.

This indicates that those who drop out of these elite programmes disproportionately belong to the disadvantaged groups, given that only half the undergraduate intake in the IITs are from the reserved categories, while about 23% are from the SC/ST communities.