

The fact of SC/ST/OBC and General Category in the Government Institutions



How India's caste system limits diversity in science – in six charts

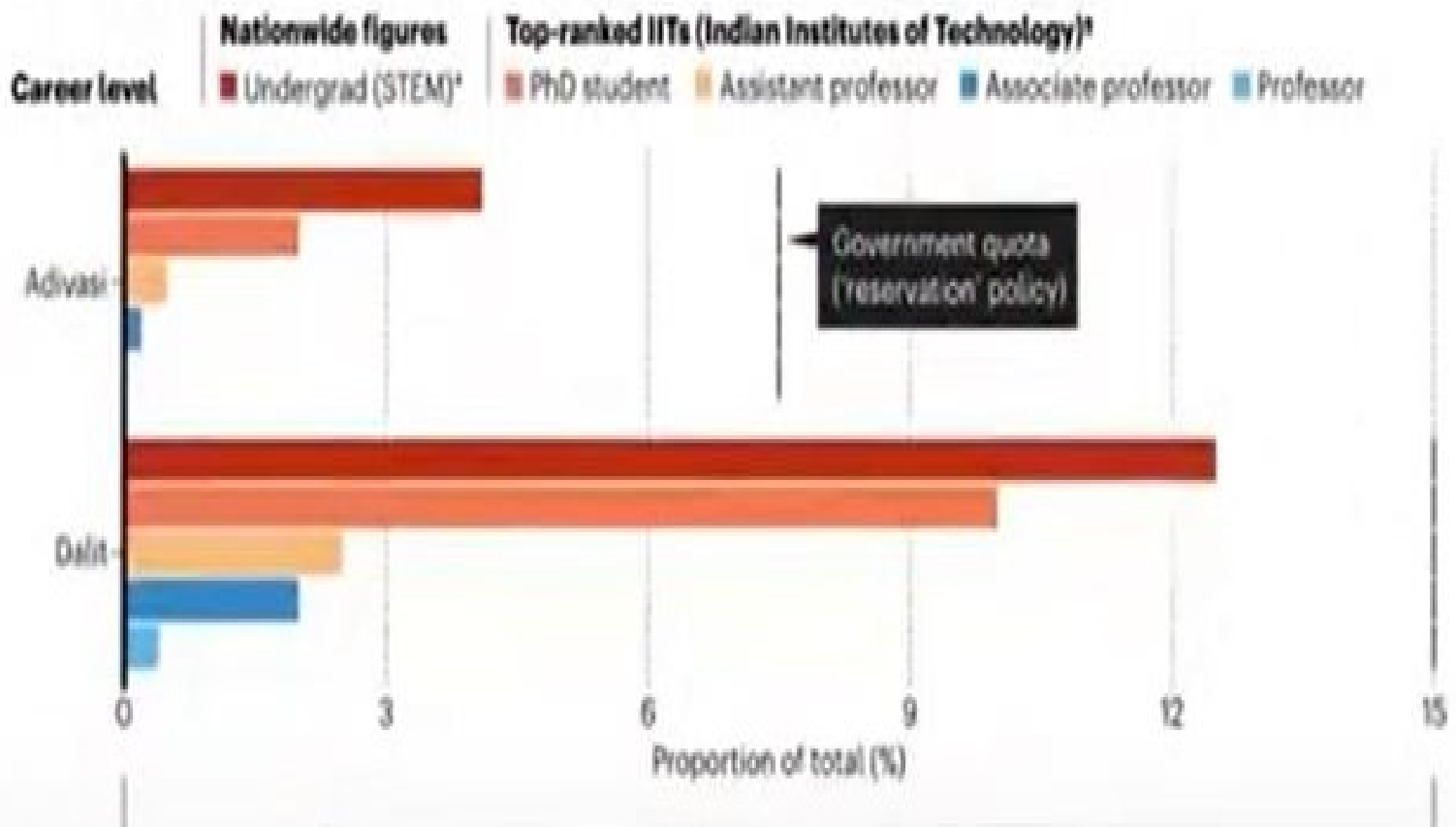
Data show how privileged groups still
dominate many of the country's elite
research institutes.

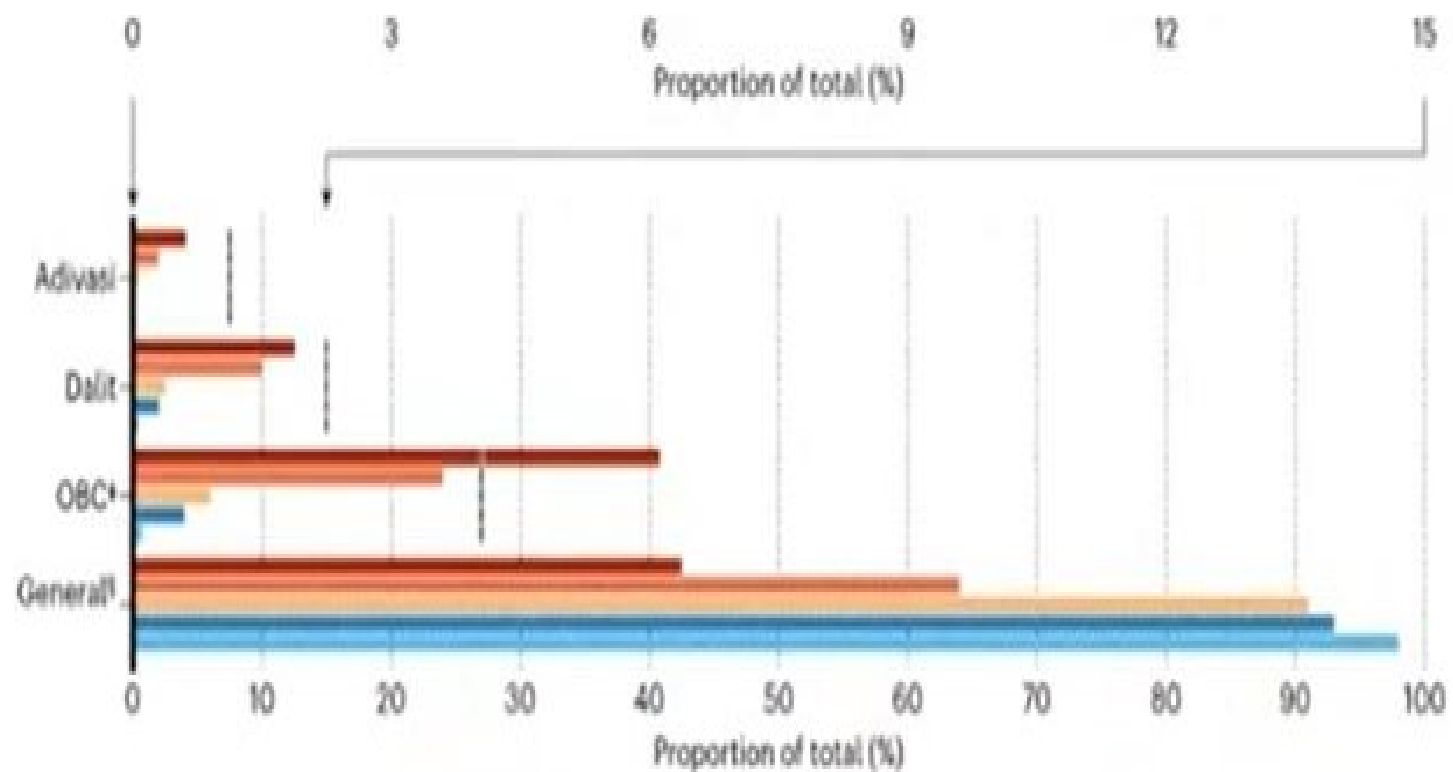
By Ankur Palliwal



DIVERSITY AT TOP INDIAN INSTITUTIONS

Universities in India are failing to meet government quotas for marginalized communities in academia. The government provides detailed national figures for undergraduate and master's students, but not for academic levels above those; Nature collated figures from right-to-information requests. These data show that the representation of marginalized castes and other groups falls at higher academic levels.





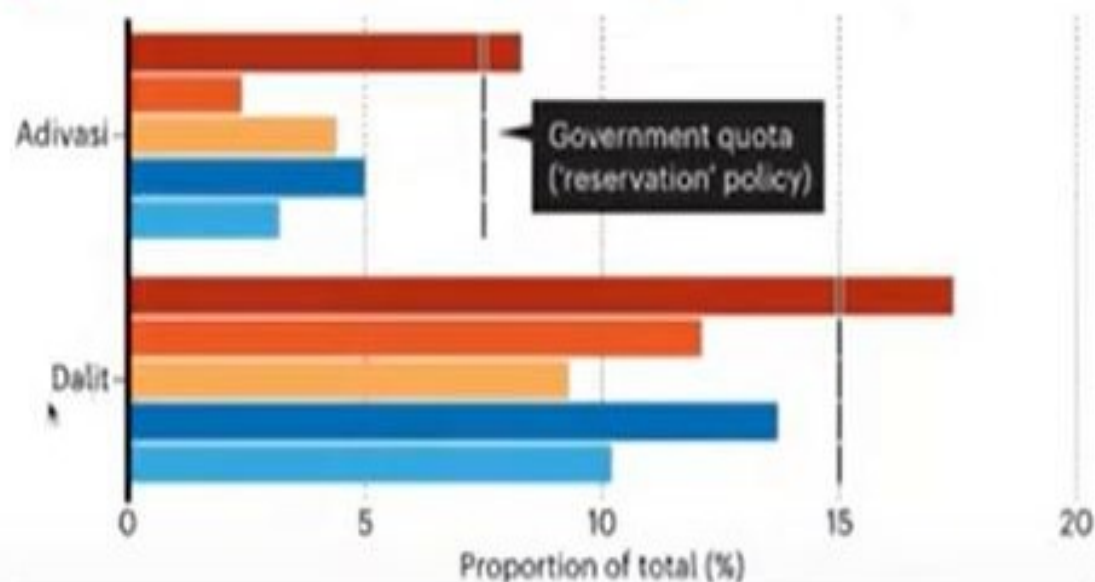
^aScience, technology, engineering and mathematics: government data 2019-20. ^bData obtained from *Nature* information requests, 2020 (latest available at time of collection). PhD: IITs: Delhi, Bombay (Mumbai), Madras (Chennai), Kanpur, Kharagpur. All other career levels: IITs: Delhi, Bombay (Mumbai), Kanpur, Kharagpur. ^cOther Backward Classes. The Indian government refers to 'Other Backward Classes' as educationally and socially marginalized groups that are not Scheduled Castes (Dalit) or Scheduled Tribes (Adivasi). ^d'General' is the government term for all groups that are not OBC, Dalit or Adivasi: that is, historically privileged castes.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS IN INDIA

At undergraduate level, Adivasis and Dalits are under-represented in science courses but not arts courses (2019-20 government data).

Subject

■ Arts ■ Engineering ■ Medicine ■ Science ■ Technology

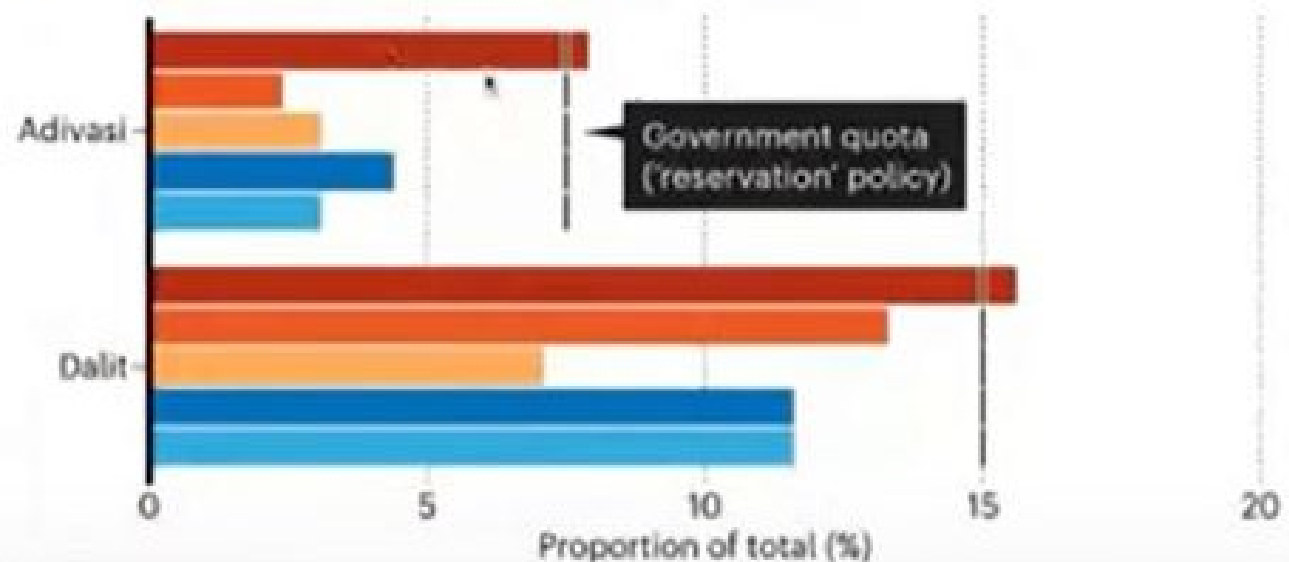


MASTER'S STUDENTS IN INDIA

At master's level, the under-representation of marginalized castes or groups in Indian universities worsens slightly, compared with undergraduates (2019-20 government data).

Subject

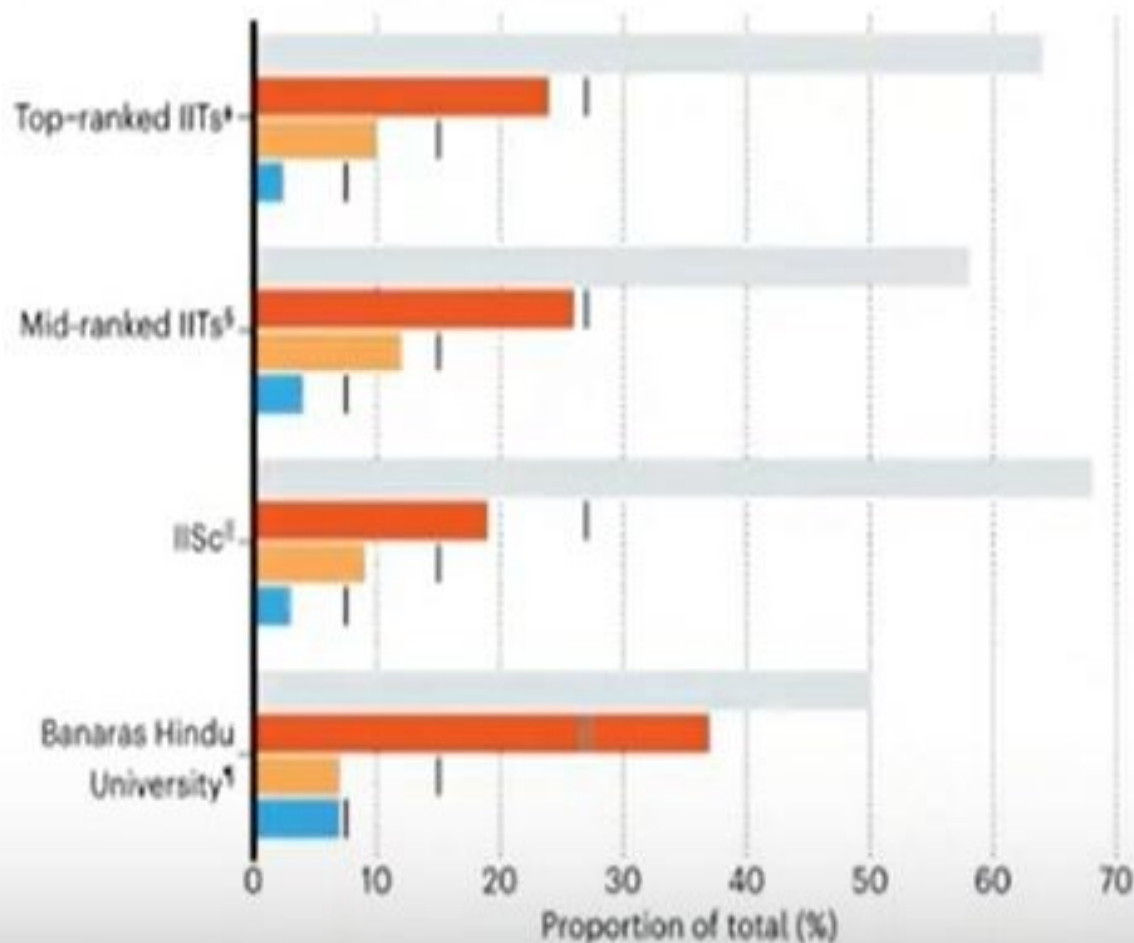
■ Arts ■ Engineering ■ Medicine ■ Science ■ Technology



nature

information requests, show under-representation of marginalized castes in PhD programmes.

■ General* ■ OBC* ■ Dalit ■ Adivasi
| Government quota ('reservation' policy)

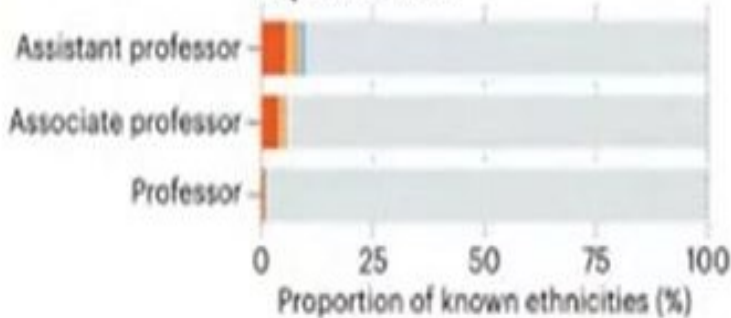


FACULTY MEMBERS IN INDIA

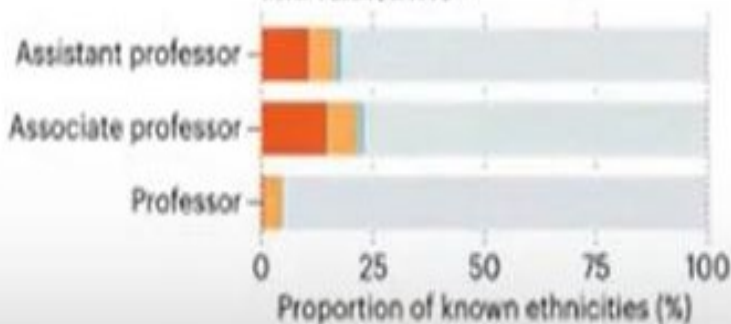
Data from 13 elite institutions in India show that a very low proportion of faculty members are from marginalized castes, especially at the assistant professor level and above.

■ OBC* ■ Dalit ■ Adivasi ■ General*

Top-ranked IITs^a

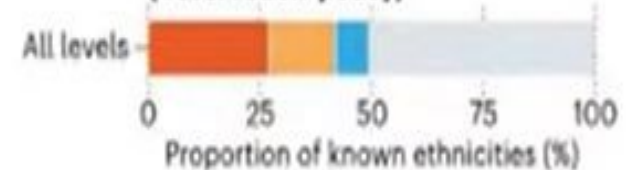


Mid-ranked IITs^b

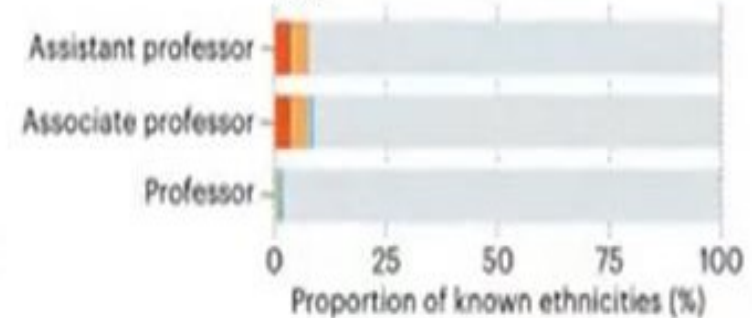


Tata Institute of Fundamental

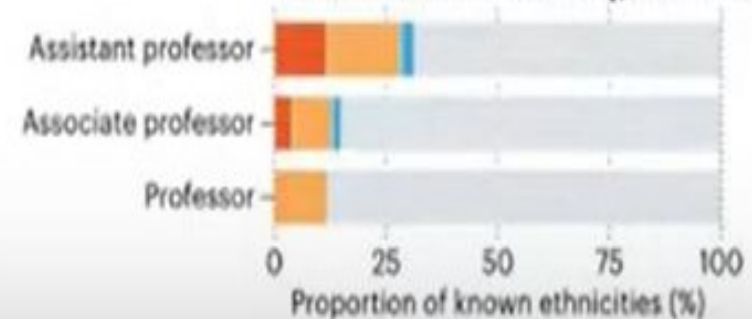
Government quota ('reservation' policy)



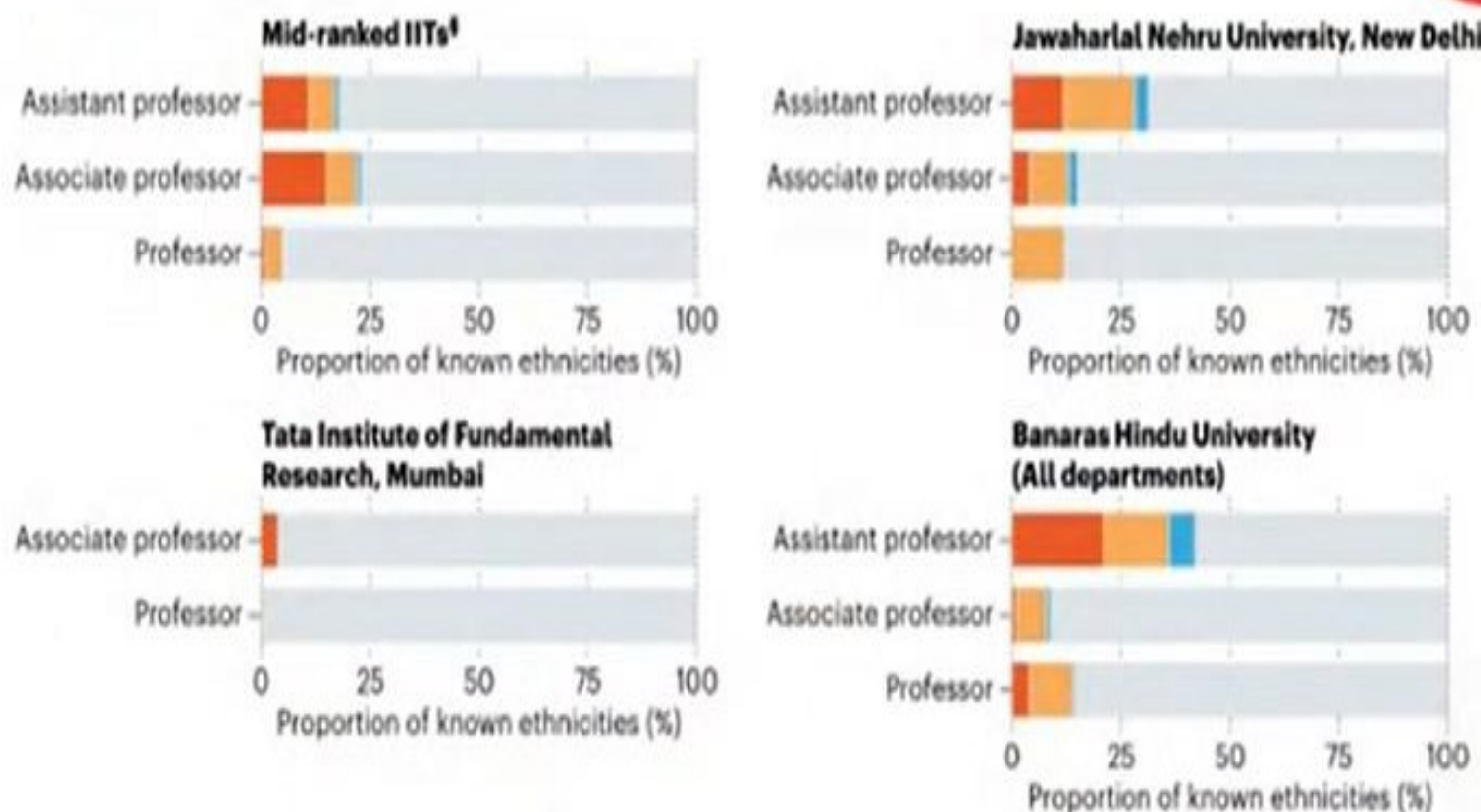
IISc^c



Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi



Banaras Hindu University



¹Groups that are not Dalit, Adivasi or OBC. ²Other backward classes. ³Delhi, Bombay (Mumbai), Kanpur, Kharagpur, (IIT Madras didn't provide faculty data).

⁴Dhanbad, Patna, Guwahati, Varanasi, and Goa. IIT Goa was created too recently to have an official ranking. ⁵Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. All data from Nature information requests, 2020 (latest available at time of collection), except for Patna, Goa and Guwahati from requests by the Egalitarians group.

DIVERSITY IN INDIA'S RESEARCH FUNDING

Data on two funding schemes, shared with *Nature* by India's Department of Science and Technology (DST) under information requests, suggest most money goes to researchers from privileged castes or groups.

INSPIRE faculty fellowship for postdoctoral research, 2016-20

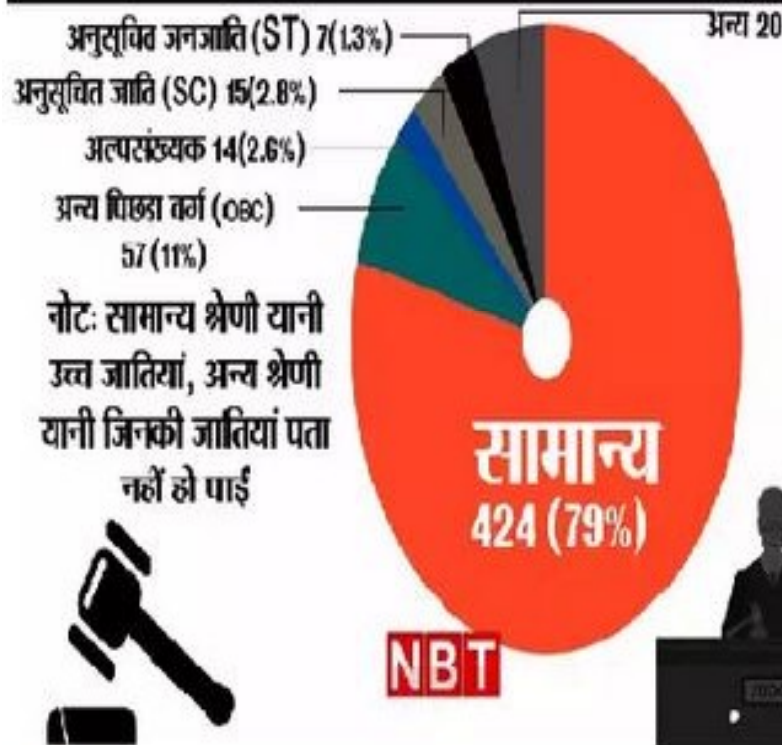


DST Tech Development and Transfer Division grants 2016-20



2.6% जज अल्पसंख्यक समुदाय से

उच्च न्यायालयों में उच्च जातियों का दबदबा
(2018 से 22 के बीच उच्च न्यायालयों में नियुक्त जज)



References-

- Nature magazine
- NBT news paper
- <https://youtu.be/SqzLEF5YmG4>