

Pro-reservation protests in the capital

New Delhi, May 16: Countering the ongoing agitation against reservation in elite educational institutions, several activists demonstrated here today in favour of quota saying it was the only way to ensure quality education for poor students.

Activists of the OBC Mahapanchayat and All India Pssmanda Muslim Mahaj (AIPMM) staged a sit-in at Jantar Mantar shouting slogans and waiving placards demanding implementation of Centre's proposal to introduce quotas for OBCs.

"Reservation for OBCs is justified. It will facilitate the poor students get quality education," said Chattar Singh, convenor of OBC Mahapanchayat.

He rubbished the argument that reservation for OBCs would lead to compromising with the quality of education.

"The poor students are lagging behind because they do not have access to quality education. They fail to afford it. Given good education, they will deliver like others," he said.

The activists took out a rally from Jantar Mantar to the Parliament Street Police Station, where it was decided that they would conduct such panchayats at various places including Najafgarh, Mehrauli and Bawana to make the people aware on benefits of reservation.

Supporting reservation for OBC students, AIPMM president Ali Anwar said the minority institutions should be brought under the purview of reservation.

"The elite Muslims have a strong hold on the minority institutions. The poor and backward Muslims are getting chance to pursue education. We demand reservation for OBC students in these institutions," he said.

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