

(c) whether the purpose for which the Scheduled Castes were created has been successful; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha): (a) and (b). 'Scheduled Castes' has been defined under article 366 (24) of the Constitution. The criterion followed in specifying a caste as a Scheduled Caste has been whether the caste suffers from tangible social disabilities arising out of the practice of untouchability.

(c) and (d). The working of the constitutional safeguards provided for them and the progress made by them are investigated by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, whose annual reports have been placed before Parliament.

Scheduled Castes in Mysore State

1921. Shri G. Y. Krisbnan: Will the Minister of Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which Scheduled Caste in Mysore State have benefited caste-wise;

(b) whether Government are aware that the concessions and facilities provided to all the Scheduled Castes have been monopolised by the only caste 'Harijans' in Mysore State to the disadvantage of the other castes;

(c) whether the Mysore Government have submitted any proposal for the inclusion or exclusion of any caste from the Scheduled Castes list; and

(d) if so, the reasons given by them for such inclusion or exclusion?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha): (a) Concessions and facilities are afforded to Scheduled Castes as a whole and no caste-wise distinction is made except in the case of Sweepers.

(b) The reference to "caste 'Harijans'" is not clear. However it is

possible that some relatively advanced communities among the Scheduled Castes are getting more benefits than others.

(c) and (d). The whole question of revision of lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is under consideration and it will not be in the public interest to disclose, at this stage, the details about the recommendations.

Development of Eastern Districts of U.P.

1922. Shri Chandrika Prasad: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether some additional districts like Ballia and Basti in Uttar Pradesh have been recently taken up for development like four other districts of Eastern, U. P. in terms of Patel Commission's recommendations; and

(b) if so, the progress made up-to-date for their development?

The Minister of Planning Petroleum and Chemicals and Social Welfare (Shri Asoka Mehta): (a) and (b). The State Government has been requested to supply the necessary information and the same will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as received.

Frequent stoppage of water supply in New Delhi

1923. Shri Ishaq Sambhali: Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of drinking water in New Delhi area is frequently stopped due to poor maintenance and repair conditions of the Water Works and the pipe lines; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the situation?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. S. Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b). Water Supply in most parts