

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4251  
ANSWERED ON:10.04.2003  
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SC/ST  
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been given powers to decide the cases like harassment and oppression of the SC/ST Government officials in service related matters;
- (b) if so, the nature of powers given to the commission in this regard; and
- (c) the Ministry-wise and department-wise number of cases relating to harassment/oppression received by the Commission during the last three years, and the action taken thereon?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN)

- (a) No, Sir. One of the duties of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is to inquire into specific complaints made by the SC/ST government officials about the harassment and oppression in service-related matters. After verification of the facts it can arrive at a conclusion and advise the concerned.
- (b) However, under Article 338 of the Constitution, National Commission for Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes has been given powers under clause 5 (b) to enquire into specific complaints with respect to the deprivation and safeguards on the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- (c) During the year 1999-2000 , 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 cases to the tune of 431,278 and 278 and 174 respectively were received and dealt with for rendering justice to SC/ST employees as admissible under the rule in force.