

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4977
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005
INCLUSION OF DHANEAR AND HERDSMEN CASTES IN SC LIST
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sent any proposal to include `Dhangar` caste in the List of Scheduled Caste;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the caste traditionally engaged in work of herdsmen outside Maharashtra has also been included in the Scheduled Caste; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) & (d) Communities are included on the basis of fulfilling the criteria namely, `extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of traditional practice of untouchability`.