

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:359  
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004  
IDENTIFICATION OF SOCIALLY BACKWARD CLASSES  
Murmu Shri Rupchand

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

- (a) whether the socially backward classes in different States and Union Territories have been identified;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted therefor;
- (c) whether the State Governments/UT administrations have submitted the lists to the Union Government in this regard; and
- (d) if not, the steps taken for early completion of the lists?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MEIRA KUMAR)

- (a) Yes, Sir. The socially and educationally backward classes in different States and Union Administrations have been identified.
- (b) The Government of India has, so far, issued 21 Gazette Notifications including approximately 4582 castes/communities(including synonyms) in the Central List of OBCs for different States/UTs.

The Government of India has set up the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) under the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) Act, 1993. As per provision under the NCBC Act, 1993, the Commission examines requests for inclusion of any class of citizen as a backward class in the list and hears complaints of over-inclusion or under-inclusion of any backward class in such lists based on social and educational and economic aspect of backwardness and tender such advice to the Central Government as it such advice to the Central Government as it deems appropriate.

The Government of India decides cases for inclusion/amendment in the Central List of Backward classes based on the advice tendered by the NCBC and details thereof are notified from time to time.

- (c) So far as the State lists of backward classes is concerned, the State Governments/UT Admns. are not required to submit their lists to the Union Government.
- (d) Does not arise.