

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1709

ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007

INCLUSION OF CASTES IN LIST OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that more and more communities are demanding to be included in the list of Scheduled Castes and Other backward Classes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is vehement opposition to the expansion of the list from those who are already in it, as they fear the dilution of their share of benefits;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to resolve the issue and streamlining the lists?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) There has been no spurt in the number of proposals towards modifications in the list of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. Processing of proposals is done in accordance with the prescribed procedure in consultation with the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and the National Commission for Backward Classes. As such there is no scope for further streamlining of the system.