

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:520  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009  
INCLUSION OF CASTES IN BPL LIST  
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**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has agreed for automatic inclusion of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Below Poverty Line (BPL) List;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to extend SC status to Christians and Muslims of SC origin as per the recommendation of Sachar Committee and to include them under BPL List through automatic route; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government to extend such benefit to the Muslims and Christians of SC origin?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(D. NAPOLEON)

- (a) & (b) The Planning Commission estimates the number and proportion of persons living below the poverty line (PBL) for States as well as for the country as a whole by using a poverty line that is based on per capita consumption expenditure. This methodology to estimate the poverty in the country is applicable to all sections of the society.
- (c) & (d) The subject matter is presently sub-judice.