

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:102

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010

CENSUS ON SC/ ST/ OBC

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram; Rathod Shri Ramesh; Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana; Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any caste based census has been conducted in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total population/persons belonging to SC/ST/OBC and those living below the poverty line in the country, State-wise including urban and rural areas separately; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) to (c) : The details regarding Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is being collected at every Census since 1951. However, information relating to castes other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes has been given up as a matter of policy during the post independence Censuses. The decision has been taken keeping in view the spirit of the Secular State enshrined in the Preamble of the Constitution of India. Caste details were, however, collected in Censuses prior to 1951 Census. A Statement showing the State-wise population of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes by residence as per the 2001 Census is given at Annexure. Data on OBC and those living below the poverty line is not collected in the Census of India.