

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1841
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2010
NATIONAL SC/ST COMMISSION
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry for strengthening the National Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe Commission;
- (b) whether the post of Chairman of SC Commission is lying vacant for many months;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor and the response of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether 16 per cent of Central funds are to be spent for SCs in proportion to their population under SC Sub-Plan; and
- (e) if so, details of expenditure during the last three years, year-wise and percentage in terms of Central funds under SC-Sub-Plan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON)

- (a) The National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) already enjoy Constitutional status, and their role and powers are spelt out in Article 338 and Article 338 A of the Constitution respectively.
- (b) The post of Chairman in SCSC has been filled up w.e.f. 15.10.2010.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) As per guidelines for formulation, implementation and monitoring of Scheduled Castes Sup Plan (SCSP) (earlier known as Special Component Plan), issued by the Planning Commission in December 2006, all the Central Ministries/Departments are required to earmark funds under SCSP from the total plan outlay at least in proportion of SC population to the total population.
- (e) As per available information, a large number of Central Ministries/Departments are not earmarking funds under SCSP as per Planning Commission's guidelines.