

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3147
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
SETTING UP OF SPECIAL CELLS
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up a special cells for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and minority section in the society to take effective steps to safeguard the vulnerable sections of society exclusively for women also;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not setting up exclusive cells for these categories?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): In accordance with Rule 8 of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Rules, 1995, notified under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Protection Cells have been set up in the States/Union Territories of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, s are, inter-alia, responsible for reviewing the position of cases of offences including those against SC/ST women, as registered under the said Act, maintaining public order and tranquility in identified areas and restoring feeling of security among SCs/STs.

Need to set up such Cells for OBCs has not been felt, and there are schemes for their educational and economic empowerment.

In regard to Minorities, Ministry of Minority Affairs has a Scheme for Leadership Development of Minority Women, targeting women at the village level to embolden them to secure benefits of various Government schemes and programmes, and seek remedial action to address grievances, from Government functionaries.