

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2870

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN UPPER/LOWER CASTES IN RESPECT OF BASIC AMENITIES

Dubey Shri Nishikant

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the gap still exists between the advanced communities and scheduled casts communities particularly of women and children on the social issues like literacy, infant mortality rate, poor health, drinking water, house etc.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes any concrete effort to bridge this gap so as to ensure no harassment or humiliation on castes identity and constitutional vision of equality is realized fully; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Comparative statement of literacy, infant mortality rate, health indicators and drinking water availability to households in respect of Scheduled Castes (SCs) vis-à-vis the overall/other population is at Annex-I. The details are as reported in 2001 Census and National Family Health Survey.

(c) & (d): Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) have been in operation for more than three decades with the principal aim to bridge the gap between the SCs and STs and the general population with respect to all socio-economic development indicators. In particular, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MOSJ&E) is implementing a number of schemes for the welfare and empowerment of SCs as indicated at Annex-II.

In addition, the National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation (NSFDC) and the National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) have been set up by MOSJ&E with the objective of financing income generating activities of SC beneficiaries and extending financial concessional financial assistance to Safai Karmacharis/Scavengers respectively.