

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3306  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2011  
SUB-GROUPS OF OBCS  
Das Gupta Shri Gurudas

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a Sub-Group of the Planning Commission has suggested that the Centre should initiate legal measures to split the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) into sub-groups based on their socio-economic status; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's decision in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a): Yes, Madam.

(b): The Sub-Group on "Social and Educational Empowerment of OBCs and EBCs" constituted under Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-17) Working Group on "Empowerment of Other Backward Classes (OBCs) and Nomadic, Semi Nomadic and Denotified Tribes" in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment inter-alia suggested that "Legal measures may be taken to categorize OBCs into two sub-groups- Backward Class (BC) and Most Backward Class (MBC) - on the basis of their social, economic and educational status. Two third of all the benefits, reservation and all other special welfare measures, may be reserved/earmarked for MBCs and one third for BCs. In case of non-availability of MBC candidates, their seats/benefits shall be transferred to the BCs, and in case of non-availability of BC candidates/beneficiaries the seats/benefits transferred to the creamy layer of OBCs. This would ensure that seats/benefits will not remain unavailed".

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has submitted the Working Group Report which among others incorporated the recommendations/suggestions of the Sub-Group regarding 'legal measures to split the Other Backward Classes (OBCs)' that are under consideration. Appropriate decision will be taken in the matter at the time of finalization of Twelfth Five Year Plan.