

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:909
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2012
SCHEMES FOR TRANSGENDER
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the estimated population of the transgender in the country;
- (b) whether transgender community are not entitled to access all the public schemes;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the details of the steps taken to bring this marginalized minority to the sociopolitical mainstream?

Answer

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

- (a) At present there is no data available in this regard.
- (b) to (d) The Constitution of India guarantees right to equality to all citizens of the country and prohibits discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Accordingly, all citizens, including transgenders, are entitled to enjoy the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution.

Election Commission of India has issued directions under the provisions of Rule 4 of the registration of Electors Rules, 1960 that in the Forms (Forms 6, 7 & 8) relating to enrolment in the electoral roll eunuchs/transsexual may include their sex as `others` where they do not want to be described as male or female. The Commission has also directed the Chief Electoral Officers of all States/UTs to make necessary modifications in the format of electoral roll and all the forms relating to enrolment in this regard.