

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6359
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2012
DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR NORTH MAHARASHTRA
Kalmadi Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received a proposal from the State Government of Maharashtra for constitutional amendment in Article 371 (2)

(a) for setting up of a separate Statutory Development Board for North Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the salient features and the present status thereof;

(c) the reasons for not introducing the requested constitutional amendment Bill so far; and

(d) the time by which the same is likely to be amended?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (d): Government of Maharashtra, on the basis of a Resolution passed unanimously by both Houses of the State Legislature on 13.7.2006, requested Government of India in February 2007 to take necessary steps to amend Article 371 (2) of the Constitution to set up a separate Statutory Development Board for North Maharashtra covering the five districts of Dhule, Jalgaon, Nandurbar, Nashik and Ahmednagar. Planning Commission has not supported a similar proposal for setting up a separate Statutory Development Board for the Konkan region in Maharashtra on the ground that backwardness by itself is not a reason for constitutional amendment for establishing a separate Development Board as there are other instruments available to the Centre and State Governments to gear up their developmental machinery. There is no proposal, at present, to amend Article 371 (2) (a) of the Constitution of India to provide for establishment of a separate Development Board for North Maharashtra.