GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:651
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
INCLUSION OF CASTES INTO SCS STS CATEGORY
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether various States have forwarded proposals to the Union Government for inclusion of some specific /Other Backward Castes into the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the details of the norms prescribed for including the backward castes into SCs/STs;
- (d) the list of the castes which are under consideration of the Government for inclusion in the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category; and
- (e) if so, the time by which approval is likely to be granted for inclusion of these castes into the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON)

- (a),(b)& (d): State-wise details in regard to the proposals sent by the State Governments, presently under process with the Central Government, for inclusion of specific castes/tribes etc. in the list of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, are given in the enclosed statement.
- (c): Criteria followed for consideration of specification of a community as a Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, is as under:-

Scheduled Castes: Extreme social, educational and economic backwardness arising out of traditional practice of untouchability.

Scheduled Tribes:- Indication of primitive traits, distinctive culture, geographical isolation, shyness of contact with community at large and backwardness.

(e): Specific proposals are processed as per approved Modalities. Any modification in the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can be done only by an Act of Parliament, in view of Article 341(2) and 342(2) of the Constitution, respectively, and no time frame in this regard can be assigned.