

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3441
ANSWERED ON:31.08.2012
TEA TRIBE COMMUNITY
Mahato Shri Narahari; Tirkey Shri Manohar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recognised the "Tea Tribe" community of Assam as a backward community;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of the social anthropological and cultural background of the tea tribe of Assam; and
- (c) the population of tea tribe in Assam?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA)

(a): As per the information made available by the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC), there is no single community described as "Tea Tribe" in the Central list of OBCs for the State of Assam. However, there are as many as 96 castes in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Assam falling under the description "Tea Garden Labourers, Tea Garden Tribes, Ex-Tea Garden labourers & Ex-Tea Garden Tribes" which is at Annex.

(b) & (c): No details are available as the list of castes was notified on the principle of commonality i.e. the names of castes figured both in the State list as well as the Mandal List.