

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4400

ANSWERED ON:07.09.2012

FAKE ST CERTIFICATES

Abdulrahman Shri ;Kodikunnil Shri Suresh;Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the incidents of people getting admissions in educational institutions and Government services through fake Scheduled Tribe (ST) certificates;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to bring a comprehensive legislation to deal with such cases and appoint a commission/committee to look into the matter;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the remedial steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of STs in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is nodal for notification of the communities as Scheduled Tribes (STs) under Article 342 of the Constitution. Responsibility for issuance and verification of caste certificates rests with the concerned State Governments/UT Administrations. Complaints received about fake ST certificates are referred to the concerned State Government/UT Admns. for appropriate action.

(e): The Government of India has issued various circulars from time to time for proper issuance and verification of Scheduled Tribes's Certificates. Following the decision of the Apex Court in the case of Kumari Madhuri Patil & Others Vs. State of Maharashtra & Others, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has again circulated in June, 2004 the instructions of the Supreme Court to streamline the procedure for the issuance of social status certificates (ST certificates), scrutiny and their approval to all State Governments/UT Administrations. The DoPT has also issued instructions to all the States/UTs in April, 2012 regarding verifications of castes certificates by District Authorities.