

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2306
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2012
ISSUE AND VERIFICATION OF CASTE CERTIFICATES
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per the decision of the Supreme Court, the Government has issued any guidelines regarding issuance and verification of caste certificates to Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether furnishing of any document/record of 1950 or before is mandatory to get an ST certificate; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SMT. RANEE NARAH)

(a) & (b): The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its decision dated 2-9-1994 in the Case of Kumari Madhuri Patil V/s Additional Commissioner, Tribal Development, Government of Maharashtra (Civil Appeal No. 5854 of 1994, arising out of SLP (Civil) No. 14767 of 1993) has directed that the caste certificates be scrutinised at the earliest and with utmost expedition and promptitude. The instructions of the Supreme Court to streamline the procedure for the issuance of caste certificates and verification of social status, their scrutiny and their approval to all State Governments/UT Administrations had been again circulated by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs in June, 2004. The DoPT has also issued instructions to all the States/UTs in April, 2012 regarding verification/issuance of Caste certificates by the District authorities.

(c) & (d): The first specification of Scheduled Tribe in relation to a particular State/Union Territory is by a notified Order of the President, after consultation with the State Government/UT concerned, as per provisions of Article 342 of the Constitution. The guidelines for issuance of the Scheduled Tribes certificates have been circulated among the States/UTs, vide the circular No. 35/1/72-RU (SCT-V) dated 2-5-75 and circular No. BC 12025/2/76-SCT-I dated 22-3-1977 by the Ministry of Home Affairs.