GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3917 ANSWERED ON:18.12.2012 REVISION OF ASSEMBLY SEATS Ghubaya Shri Sher Singh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether eight Bills were passed for inclusion and exclusion of about 350 SCs/STs during 2002-2011;
- (b) whether the Government is contemplating to make reservation and relocation of Lok Sabha and Assembly Seats for them in view of the revised SC/ST lists and as per the revised Population Census, 2011; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH)

(a) to (c): As per information provided by the Ministry of Law and Justice, ten (10) Bills to modify the lists of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes had been passed by the Parliament from 2002 – 2011.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 540 of 2011, Virendra Pratap & another vs. Union of India vide its judgment dated the 10th January, 2012 has directed the Election Commission of India to consider the case of the Scheduled Tribes which had been included in the list of the Scheduled Tribes by virtue of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 2002 and to take appropriate steps for their representation in the lower houses, both in Parliament as well as in the State Legislative Assembly.

The Election Commission has desired that a legislation may be enacted on the lines of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976, specifically empowering the Election Commission to carry out re-adjustment of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the light of revised population figures of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, as may be ascertained and determined by the Census Commissioner with reference to 1st March, 2001 after taking into account the population figures of the castes and figures which have been declared as the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes after publication of the 2001 census. The matter is being examined by the Ministry of Law and Justice.