

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4724

ANSWERED ON:23.04.2013

PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES AGAINST SCs STs

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has called a meeting of the Ministers in charge of SC/ST Development Departments in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of issues discussed during the said meeting;
- (c) whether the Union Government provides assistance to the States for ensuring effective implementation of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989;
- (d) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated, released and expenditure incurred by the various States during each of the last three years and the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI PORIKA BALRAM NAIK)

(a) & (b): The Union Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment held a meeting of Ministers in-charge of SC/ST Development Departments in the States/UTs, on 20.02.2013, at New Delhi, to discuss issues related to amendments in the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) {PoA}Act, 1989. The views expressed largely related to the following areas:-

- (i) Prompt registration of cases under the PoA Act by police and accountability of investigating officer.
- (ii) Setting up of exclusive special courts for speedy trial of cases under the PoA Act,
- (iii) Disposal of cases by courts within a time frame,
- (iv) Counter cases by accused against victims,
- (v) Review of element of `mens -rea` presently incorporated in certain sections of the PoA Act,
- (vi) Willful neglect of duties required to be performed by public servants under the PoA Act.

(c) & (d): Towards effective implementation of provisions of the PoA Act, due Central assistance is provided to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under a Centrally sponsored Scheme, mainly for strengthening of the enforcement and judicial machinery, inter caste marriages, awareness generation, and relief and rehabilitation of the affected persons.

(e) The State/Union Territory wise allocation of funds is not done under the aforesaid Scheme. However, details related to Central assistance released during the last three years viz. 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 and expenditure incurred, during 2010-11 and 2011-212 are given in the statement annexed. The expenditure figures for the year 2012-13 have not yet been received from the States/UTs. Proposals for the current year 2013-14 have also not been received.