

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:529
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013
FAKE CASTE CERTIFICATES
Singh Shri Pashupati Nath

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether cases of getting the benefits meant for the Scheduled Tribes by obtaining fake cast certificates by other persons have engaged attention of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether such cases have been investigated; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO)

(a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 529 regarding "Fake Caste Certificates" by Shri Pashupati Nath Singh for answer on 03.05.2013.

(a) to (d): While the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for notification of a community as Scheduled Tribe under Article 342 of the Constitution, the responsibility for issuance and verification of Scheduled Tribe certificates rests with the concerned State Government/ UT Administration. Thus, complaints received about fake Scheduled Tribes certificates are referred to the concerned State Government/UT Administration for appropriate action. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs does not maintain such data.

As per the directives of the Supreme Court of India, in its decision dated 02.9.1994 in case of Kumari Madhuri Patil & Others Vs. Additional Commissioner, Tribal Development Department, (State of Maharashtra) and Others, each State Government has to set up Caste Certificate Scrutiny Committee to validate the certificate issued to a person by the District Authorities and also verify the Caste status of the claimant on receipt of a complaint or a request from the Government/ appointing authorities. As per the Supreme Court directives, the Caste certificate holder has to get his/ her certificate validated from the Committee before applying for any benefits from the Government. Such Committees function at State as well as District level in various States/UTs. While making appointments/admission, the concerned authorities are therefore required to verify, that the candidates seeking employment/admission against a reserved vacancy has got his/her certificate validated or not from the concerned Committee. The Government of India has also issued various circulars from time to time for proper issuance and verification of Scheduled Tribe Certificates.