

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5610  
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013  
BUDGET FOR SCHEDULED CASTES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES  
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to ensure that a marginal percentage of the Union Budget is spent for Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has set up any working group in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b) The Planning Commission's guidelines already exist to earmark the population- proportionate share of Gross Budgetary Support to Central Plan Outlay for the schemes/programmes identified for the development and welfare of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs). Similar guidelines, however, have not been issued for Other Backward Classes.
- (c) & (d) The Planning Commission has set up an Inter-Ministerial Committee, consisting of inter-alia representatives of Department of Social Justice & Empowerment, Ministry of Tribal Affairs and States with concentration of SC and ST population, mainly to review the existing guidelines and to suggest modifications/revisions for their effective implementation during the Twelfth Five Year Plan.