

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6029
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2013
EDUCATION OF TRIBALS
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahb

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the benefit of most of the facilities enshrined in the constitution for tribals are being cornered by the converts and if so, the detail thereof;
- (b) whether a delegation has submitted any memorandum to the Government in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (d) the steps being taken by the Government to educate and make tribal people aware of their rights?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SR1MATI RANEE NARAH)

(a) to (c) No such issue has been brought to the notice of Ministry of Tribal Affairs. However, any person belonging to Scheduled Tribes may profess any religion and, therefore, Scheduled Tribes belonging to any religion can equally avail of the facilities enshrined for the Scheduled Tribes in the Constitution.

(d) The Government of India is committed to the welfare and development of the Scheduled Tribes population of the country. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal Ministry for policy, planning and coordination of programmes for the development of the Scheduled Tribes and supplements the efforts of other Central Ministries and State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to fill the critical gaps taking into account the situation of the Scheduled Tribes. The Government of India and State Governments / UTs are engaged in making members of the Scheduled Tribes educated and aware of their rights through various measures, which is a continuous process.