

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:297
ANSWERED ON:11.02.2014
DATA FOR POLICY FRAMEWORK
Aaron Rashid Shri J.M.

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Census and National Sample Survey exercises provide adequate and reliable data to understand problems with regard to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Schedules Tribes (STs), women and various religious/social groups for a suitable policy response/framework;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the data available with the Government on the basis of the above exercise;
- (c) whether the Government has any plan to reform the Indian statistical system in order to meet the data requirements on relevant castes, tribes, religion and other groups to frame targeted policies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE), MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI SRIKANT KUMAR JENA)

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

Statement referred to in Reply to parts (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 297 for answer on 11.2.2014

(a) & (b): Data on Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), women and various religious/ social groups is collected in the Population Census conducted by Census Commissioner and Registrar General of India and Sample Surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO). The Census data provides basic demographic and socio-economic information of the entire population including SCs, STs, women and various religious/social groups. It also provides information on various key indicators including population size, child population (0-6 years), sex ratio, literates and literacy rates, highest educational level attained, workers category, category of economic activities etc. National Sample Survey data provides information classified by religion, social groups and sex covering wide range of indicators like consumer expenditure, employment-unemployment, health, education, debt and investment, land and livestock etc.

(c) & (d): In order to meet the data requirement in respect of various social/religious groups, making reforms in Indian Statistical System is a continuous process to identify gaps and suggest improvements for producing reliable statistics. With this in view, National Statistical Commission (NSC) has been set up to serve as a nodal and empowered body for making recommendations on all core statistical activities of the country. NSC reviews the statistical activities of various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India on regular basis in order to identify the data gaps, examine adequacy of data and requirement of data for policy formulation and suggest measures to make improvements in the Indian Statistical System. The National Data Bank hosted on the website of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation contains information on population, education, health and labour & employment for various socio-religious categories.