

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2764
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2015
Separate Constituencies
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Mandal Commission had recommended separate parliamentary and legislative constituencies for certain backward communities particularly fishermen community along the coastal areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the follow-up action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any feasibility survey/study for the purpose;
- (d) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2764 TO BE ANSWERED ON 6th AUGUST, 2015.

(a) to (e): The Election Commission has informed that seats for the Scheduled Castes (SCs)/the Scheduled Tribes (STs) only are reserved as per the provisions of article 330 and 332 of the Constitution of India. Under the above provisions read with section 9 (1) (c) and 9 (1) (d) of the Delimitation Act, 2002, the seats in Legislative Assemblies of the State/Union territories and the seats in the House of the People were accordingly reserved for the SCs/STs by the then Delimitation Commission on the basis of figures of 2001 census as ascertained by the Registrar General of India. Further, the constituencies in which the seats are reserved for the Scheduled Castes were required to be distributed in different parts of the State and located, as far as practicable, in those areas where the proportion of their population to the total population is comparatively large. The constituencies, which were reserved for the Scheduled Tribes, were required to be located in those areas, as far as practicable, where the proportion of their population to the total population was the largest. Under the existing law, there is no provision in the Constitution or in the Delimitation Act, 2002 to reserve separate constituency for any other backward community including fishermen. There is also no information regarding recommendation of Mandal Commission for separate constituencies.