

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1569
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2014
SC ST PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES AMENDMENT BILL
Sreeramulu Shri B.

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

- (a) whether the Government has introduced the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill, 2014 in the Parliament;
- (b) if so, the details and main features of the proposed amendment; and
- (c) the time by which the Bill is likely to be passed?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

- (a): The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill, 2014 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16.07.2014, to amend the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.
- (b): The amendments proposed in the aforesaid Bill, largely covers the following five areas:-
 - (i) Amendments to Chapter II (Offences of Atrocities) to include new definitions, to re-phrase existing sections and expand the scope of presumptions.
 - (ii) Institutional Strengthening
 - (iii) Appeals
 - (iv) Establishing Rights of Victims & Witnesses
 - (v) Strengthening preventive measure
- (c): The said Bill has been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment on directions of Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha on 17.07.2014, for examination and report. The Bill is, thus, the property of the House and as such no time frame can be envisaged for its enactment.