

[Translation]

Inclusion of Nonia Caste in SC's list

4085. SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government received any proposal for consideration of Nonia caste in Bihar to include in the list of Scheduled Caste;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) and (b) The Government of Bihar under its letter dated 27.8.1997 has recommended inclusion of Nonia caste in the list of Scheduled Castes of that State.

(c) No specific time Schedule can be indicated.

Allotment of Gas Agencies

4086. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to release the quote for allotment of gas agencies to the persons belonging to SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) and (b) As per existing policy, 25% of LPG distributorships are reserved for SCs/STs for allotment through normal selection procedure of issue of advertisement and selection through Dealer Selection Board. Accordingly 445 LPG distributorships have been reserved for SC/ST category out of a total of 1702 LPG distributorships under the LPG Marketing Plan 1996-98.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Declaration of Backward Areas

4087. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government declared and identified twenty four districts in the country as backward;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) any steps proposed to be taken by the Government for their development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Visit of Special Central Teams/Officers

4088. SHRI SADASHIV RAO D. MANDLIK :
SHRI K.S. RAO:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:
SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA:
SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH PATEL:
DR. SANJAY SINH:
SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI NRIPEN GOSWAMI:
SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR:
SHRI T. GOVINDAN:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether special central teams officers have been sent to certain States recently to assess and Report on the law and order situation;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the composition of the team;

(c) the findings of each Central teams/officer;

(d) the details of action taken of such reports;

(e) whether the attitude of States towards these teams/officers was co-operative;

(f) if not, the reasons therefor;

(g) whether the Union Government are considering to send further central teams/officers to another States; and

(h) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted to send such type of teams/officers?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (h) Two Central teams, one to Bihar and the other to West Bengal, were deputed in June, 1998.