

(c) if not, the time by which this list is likely to be reviewed?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Amendments to the Central List of OBCs are made by the Government on the basis of recommendations of the National Commission for Backward Classes. No timeframe can be specified.

Census Bungling 11-9-10

2149. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 30th report of the Commissioner of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes reveals census bungling in some States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken to set right the distortion of census data?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) The 30th Report of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes does not reveal any census bungling.

However, under Annexure 4 of the Report an article written by Shri Sharad Kulkarni is enclosed as miscellaneous papers. This article titled as 'Distortion Census Data on Scheduled Tribes' states that the increase in tribal population as depicted in 1981 census over 1971 census is due to two reasons viz,

- (i) 'Removal of Area Restrictions (Amendment) Act, 1996' made the lists (of Scheduled Tribes) applicable to all areas in the state whereas in 1971 it was restricted to the members of any specific Tribe, only if they were living in the area specified for that tribe.
- (ii) Deliberate fraudulent responses given to the census enumerators by non-tribal households.

However, the contents of the article do not reflect any bungling in the census process.

(c) Wide publicity is given during census about provisions of the Census Act according to which the respondents are required to give correct information and it also binds enumerators to record the information truthfully.

Data is collected at each census with due care by well-trained enumerators and as per the lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as appearing in the 'Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Lists (Modification) Order 1956' as amended from time to time.

Stray Animals 11-9-10

2150. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fund allocated for 1998-99 to look after stray animals were used;

(b) if so, the amount allocated and utilised so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Rs. 5.00 crores has been allocated in the R.E. 1998-99 of the Ministry of Environment & Forests and it has been allowed to be utilised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for new schemes for Animal Welfare. Out of this amount Rs. 238.34 lakhs has been utilised so far under two new schemes for looking after stray animals. The remaining amount is expected to be utilised in full by the end of this financial year.

Scholarship Schemes for SCs/STs 10/9/10

2151. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the budgeted amounts under Pre-Matric and Post Matric Scholarship schemes for SCs/STs students have been reduced in 1998-99 as compared to 1996-97 and 1997-98;