

### Atrocities against Dalits

2402. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is fully aware that the incidents of Dalit atrocities are on the increase in different forms such as burning the houses of the Dalit families, stripping their women, gang rapes and murders;

(b) the number of such incidents that have taken place in different States in the last five years;

(c) whether State Governments have dealt with them sternly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON) : (a) and (b) The number of cases in regard to various offences of atrocities against Scheduled Castes, registered under the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, during last five years, were as under:-

Year	Number of cases
2004	26523
2005	25836
2006	26665
2007	29825
2008	24971
TOTAL:	1,33,820

Source:- National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)

Data for 2008 is provisional

(c) and (d) Implementation of the said Act is the responsibility of State Governments. They are addressed from time to time at the highest level, to implement it, in letter and spirit. Its implementation is also reviewed in high level meetings with them.

With a view to ensure effective implementation of the Act, central assistance is also provided to State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, mainly for strengthening their enforcement and judicial machinery, relief to atrocity victims, incentive for inter-caste marriages and awareness generation.

### Nomadic Tribes

2403. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the outcome of the committee appointed by Prime Minister to consider the demand of Venjaras and Sikhligar Communities to put them in the category of Nomadic Tribes;
- (b) the steps that have been taken by the Government to give both communities same status in each State now they are under different categories;
- (c) whether National Commission for Minorities have also sent a proposal about this and what action has been taken thereon; and
- (d) how long Government will take to provide Tribal Category facility to these communities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON) : (a) and (b) A Commission, namely, the National Commission for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes was constituted which submitted its report on 2nd July, 2008. The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration.

(c) The National Commission for Minorities got a study conducted on 'Social-economic, cultural, traditional and occupation status of the Sikhligar, Lubana, Vanjara and Dakhini Sikh communities'. The recommendations of the study report were forwarded to (i) State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan and Delhi (ii) Ministries of Ministry Affairs, Human Resource Development, Labour and Employment and Small and Micro Enterprises for taking appropriate action and (iii) UNDP to include these Sikh Communities in their on-going livelihood programmes.

(d) No such proposal for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes has been received from the State Governments by the Central Government.

#### **Overseas Scholarship Scheme for SCs/STs**

2404. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Overseas Scholarship Scheme for SC/ST has not met with much response;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the action taken to fully utilize the money allotted for the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON) : (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Following actions are taken to optimally utilize the money allocated for the scheme:-
  - (i) applications are invited through advertisements in news papers and suitable awardees are selected through a laid down procedure.