

their recommendation in the light of observations of RGI. Proposals of Dhanuk and Khatwe communities have been returned to the Government of Bihar for furnishing ethnographic information, in support of their recommendation.

(c) As any amendment in the list of SCs can be made only by an Act of Parliament in view of clause (2) of Article 341 of Constitution of India, no time frame can be assigned in the matter.

### **Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers**

2028. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:

SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI:

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

(a) whether Government has recently revised the Central Sector Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS), if so, the salient features of the revised scheme;

(b) whether Government has launched awareness campaigns to educate the existing Manual Scavengers regarding the benefits of the scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to ensure effective implementation of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013 by all the States/Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS) has been revised *w.e.f.* November, 2013 to provide the following benefits to the identified Manual Scavengers:

(i) One time cash assistance of ₹ 40000/- each to identified Manual Scavengers

(ii) Loan for employment generating activities at concessional rates of interest and with capital and interest subsidy; and

(iii) Skill Development Training to eligible and willing Manual Scavengers and their dependants with stipend of ₹ 3000/- per month.

(b) National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) which is implementing agency for SRMS has been organizing interaction-

cum-awareness camps in areas having concentration of identified Manual Scavengers. Such camps have been held at Bareilly, Lucknow, Meerut, Moradabad, Bengaluru and Ratlam.

(c) Effective implementation of “Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013” (MS Act, 2013) is ensured through:

- (i) Vigilance Committees Constituted under the MS Act, 2013 at District and Sub-Divisional level;
- (ii) Central and State Monitoring Committee constituted under the MS Act, 2013;
- (iii) Quarterly Progress Report from States/Union Territories (UTs);
- (iv) Review meeting with the senior officers of the concerned Departments of States/UTs; and
- (v) Field visits by the officers of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

#### **OBC status to Gujjars**

2029. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given OBC status to Gujjars and other communities in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the demands still pending with the Centre from various States including Andhra Pradesh for SC, ST and OBC inclusions of some other communities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) Yes.

(b) Till date 2403 entries (by way of castes, their synonyms, sub-castes etc.) have been notified in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for different States/ Union Territories. The advice of the NCBC has been received for inclusion of castes/ communities for different States/UTs, the details of which are given in Statement-I (*See* below). In so far as proposals relating to the SC and ST, the details are given in Statement-II and Statement-III (*See* below).