

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, has my notice for a Short Duration Discussion been admitted or not? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: आप प्लीज बैठ जाइए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... बैठ जाइए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the point? ...*(Interruptions)*... What is the point in disrupting the Question Hour? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no, no. None of this is going on record. Why are you...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, it may not go on the record, but ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But what is the point in raising it? ...*(Interruptions)*... Look, there are Members who have asked questions. It is only fair that they get answers. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय सभापति जी, लगातार ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Question 136. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, what is the fate of my request? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can't give you the answer here. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry, I cannot give you the answer here. ...*(Interruptions)*... बैठ जाइए, बैठ जाइए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, आप बैठ जाइए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please sit down. The question. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... नरेश जी, आप बैठ जाइए! ...*(व्यवधान)*... Question No. 136.. What is the point? This has no relevance. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Reservation of SCs/STs/OBCs etc. in judicial service

*136.DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received requests/suggestions in favour of reservation for OBCs/SCs/STs/Muslims/Women in the judicial service;

*Not recorded.

- (b) if so, whether the demand would be considered favourably; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively. These Articles do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. The Government has, however, requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Minorities and from amongst women.

Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the High Court, frames the Rules and Regulations regarding the issues of appointment, promotion, reservations etc. of judicial officers in the State Judicial Service. Central Government has no direct role in this regard.

Most recently, upon receiving representations from various sources, the Member-Secretary, National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) requested the Government to consider providing 27% reservations for OBCs in lower as well as Higher Judicial Services of the National Capital Territory of Delhi. Since the matter pertains to the State Government of NCT of Delhi, the request has been forwarded to them as well as to the Delhi High Court for taking necessary action.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is irrelevant; I don't expect this from you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji, बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Question No.136. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Questioner is present. ...*(Interruptions)*... Will you please raise your question? ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the answer be given. ...*(Interruptions)*... Supplementary question ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: हम उसका विरोध कर रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't do this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nareshji, बैठ जाइए, आप भी बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Where is the discussion? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Jairam Rameshji, please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please stop interrupting. ...*(Interruptions)*... Jairam Rameshji, please stop interrupting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, Rs.20,000 crore of bank money ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नीरज शेखर: बुंदेलखंड के सूखे पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't do this. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप भी बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry you are disturbing the Question Hour. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Where is the discussion? ...*(Interruptions)*... We want your decision. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot get the decision at this time. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the occasion to seek an answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: When is the occasion? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned for fifteen minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

The House then adjourned at six minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled at twenty-one minutes past twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra Rao has raised his question and the answer has been given. Now, he may ask his supplementary.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, according to my understanding, the great founders of our Constitution envisaged the rule of reservation keeping in view the objective that the underprivileged people, particularly those belonging to the lower strata of the society, would become equal to the other sections of the society who are privileged. Sir, to my understanding, the framers of the Constitution had never banned or disallowed...

श्री सभापति: आपका question क्या है?

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I was making a small introduction. I am coming to the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, just ask the question.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, to my understanding they had never banned reservation in the Judiciary. On seeing the hon. Minister's reply, to my limited understanding and to my limited IQ, I am getting a feeling as if the framers of the Constitution had prohibited reservation in the judicial system.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, what are you asking?

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRARAIO: Sir, through you, I would like to ask from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal from the Government side for considering a Constitutional amendment in this regard because the Standing Committee on Law and Justice has already recommended for such a thing. Is there any proposal from the Government to call for an all-party meeting to discuss this issue?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, the High Court and the Supreme Court Judges are the Constitutional posts and their appointment and selection is done as per the Constitutional provisions. As on today, the appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Court are governed by the Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution respectively. These Articles do not provide for any reservation for persons belonging to any caste or class. So, as far as the High Court and Supreme Court Judges are concerned under the present Constitution, there is practically no reservation as far as any caste or community is concerned. But, as my friend rightly said, repeatedly, we are writing to the Chief Justices of various High Courts. My predecessor, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad, wrote two or three letters to all the Chief Justices of the High Courts to please consider the reservation for SCs, STs, women and all that at the time of making the list of the Judges in the Collegium. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान: सर, इनके सप्लिमेंटरी का जवाब नहीं आया।...*(व्यवधान)*...

[جناب محمد علی خان : سر، ان کے سپلیمنٹری کا جواب نہیں آیا۔۔۔*(مداخلت)*۔۔۔][†]

श्री सभापति: पहले सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Just a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: I am coming to that. ...*(Interruptions)*... They should hear me. As far as the higher judiciary and higher judicial services are concerned, there are certain differences. Higher judiciary is High Courts and the Supreme Court. As far as higher judicial services are concerned and as far as the lower judiciary services are concerned, of course, in various States, it comes under the control of the High Court, and

[†] Transliteration in Urdu script.

there are reservations. I have got all the particulars of all the 24 High Courts where there are reservations in the appointment of judges. My learned friend is from Andhra Pradesh. Let us take the example of Andhra Pradesh. As far as Andhra High Court is concerned, in the lower judiciary, certainly, for Scheduled Castes, it is 15 per cent, for Scheduled Tribes, it is 6 per cent, and, for BC, it is 29 per cent. It is applicable to the lower judicial services. But as he rightly said, at present, there is no proposal before the Government as far as Constitutional amendment is concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. That is all right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ask your second question, and take less time.

KUMARI SELJA: Sir, the Government has to bring the proposal. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Selja ji, it is not your question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Respected Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Selja ji, please sit down.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Sir, for the High Court and the Supreme Court, the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Punia ji, please. He has given the answer.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: No, he has not given the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is no proposal before the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is the answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

KUMARI SELJA: Who will bring the proposal? ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, I am repeating my first supplementary again. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, please ask your second supplementary. ...*(Interruptions)*... Your first supplementary has been answered.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, he did not answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will go to other question, if you do not ask the second supplementary.

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Sir, you have to come to my rescue. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have to come to my rescue and you must protect me. ...*(Interruptions)*... He never answered my question. Is the Government considering. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question was: Does the Government have the matter under consideration? The answer is 'no'. Now, ask your second supplementary.

KUMARI SELJA: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Constitutional Amendment. ...*(Interruptions)*... They are not considering. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what he has said. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ask your second question. We are running out of time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Is the Central Government, particularly, the Law and Justice Department, considering the issue of specific model rules and regulations, which will be binding upon the State Governments and other judiciary in the States?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Hon. Chairman, Sir, I said that the appointments of the judicial officers in the States is completely under the domain of the High Courts and the High Courts in consultation with the State Governments, will form rules and regulations as far as the appointments to the lower judiciary are concerned. There are about 19 States where there are reservations in the appointment of judicial officers in the lower judiciary. But as far as High Courts and the Supreme Court are concerned, these are Constitutional posts.

They are governed by the Constitutional authorities. There is no such reservation. My friend has asked as to whether we are going to hold an all-Party meeting to consider all these aspects. His suggestion is taken note of, and, I will think about it.

SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Sir, I want to put a question to the hon. Law Minister. In his answer to the question on record, he has stated that there are certain difficulties under the Constitution of India for having fixed reservation quotas for OBCs, SCs and Muslims also. We find that after the quashing of the Judicial Appointments Commission, there has been some confusion with regard to the responsibility to be fixed upon the Chief Justice or upon the Central Government, but, at the same time, I would request you to do something in order to restore the faith of the people of this country in the administration of justice, and, more particularly, of the minorities, the SCs, STs who are always at the receiving end, as far as injustice is concerned. So, I think the Government would do well.

The Law Minister would kindly examine the representation of Judges, both in higher judiciary and lower judiciary, periodically twice a year to ensure that adequate number of judges' representation is there so that the people who belong to Backward Class, including Muslims, would feel secure as far as distribution of Justice is concerned.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a suggestion.

SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA: It is well taken, Sir. Unfortunately, the NJAC was struck down. But you have seen the intention of the Government in NJAC. One of the Members should belong to either SC or ST or Woman or Minority Community. But, unfortunately, it was struck down. Apart from that, we are repeatedly writing to the Chief Justice. And it was a unanimous decision of the Parliament.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, please. Yes, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the answer says, the Government has, however, requested the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to the suitable candidates belonging to the OBC, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, minorities and from amongst women. Sir, what is 'suitable candidates'? It is an insulting word, I find. I have come across all the Government documents, public sector, judiciary, everywhere, whenever it comes to SC/ST/OBC, you say eligibility is not there, suitability is not there. After independence, seven decades have passed and you are saying no suitable candidate is there. Due consideration should be given to 'suitable candidates'. This is a very insulting word, Sir. I make this comment.

Now, I come to the question. As per the data which I have, up to 13.02.2016, in Supreme Court of India, total Chief Justices appointed are 43. Out of these, OBC is 1, SC is 1. Additional Judges are 177. So, total Judges are 219. Out of these, the number of OBC Judges is 5, SC Judges is 4 and ST Judges is nil. How do you justify this, Sir? I am asking the Law Minister how you justify this position.

SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in almost all the appointments, the suitability is there. Right from IAS up to the last stage of appointment, suitability is a word which is used for each and every post that has certain eligibility criteria. That has to suit. That is what I mean by suitability. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: I am sorry, Sir, in all public sector undertakings, take the case of Board of Directors. They say no suitable candidate is available. And here, you say no suitable candidate is available. It is an insulting word.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Raja, please listen to the answer.

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, suitability is a word. In each and every appointment, there are certain eligibility criteria. For example, ...*(Interruptions)*... I will tell you. To become a District Judge from a Bar, he has to complete seven years of service. All these are eligibility criteria. That is the suitability what I mean.

Sir, as far as his other issue is concerned that these are the numbers of OBCs, these are the numbers of SCs and STs, the Supreme Court and High Courts don't maintain the statistics about the religion, community or anything in their portal. So, I don't know from where my friend has got all those numbers. So far, I have received reply from all the High Courts and the Supreme Court. They say that they don't maintain statistics with regard to religion, community or caste. Even the format wherein an advocate is elevated to the High Court or to the Supreme Court does not contain any sentence with regard to eligibility and other things.

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: माननीय सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी फरमाया है कि सभी पार्टियों में आम सहमति होने के बाद एक सर्वसम्मति का प्रस्ताव पारित किया गया। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ और उनसे पूछना चाहता हूँ कि यदि सर्वसम्मति का प्रस्ताव पारित किया गया और आम सहमति है तो फिर संविधान का संशोधन करने में क्या दिक्कत है?

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: Sir, technically, we have seen NJAC. It has been unanimously passed. But judicial scrutiny is there under the Constitution. Now, ...*(Interruptions)*... Wait, wait. ...*(Interruptions)*... One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIDIGVIJAYSINGH: Sir, the Constitution can be amended....*(Interruptions)*... It is the right of the Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please let him finish. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: For that only, the suggestion given by my friend, I said that it is well-taken. Certainly, we will consider that and we will go ahead. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: When? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA: That I cannot say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Question No.137. ...*(Interruptions)*... Satishji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, the total strength of the Allahabad High Court is 160. ...*(Interruptions)*... I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether even one per cent of the judges from the Scheduled Castes is there or not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: The total strength of the Allahabad High Court is 160. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, how many ...*(Interruptions)*... judges from Scheduled Castes are there? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Satishji, you will get an answer from the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Minister will give you an answer. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, he has the data. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: So, he may just tell us how many judges belonging to the Scheduled Castes are there in Allahabad High Court. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We have moved on to the next Question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Even if it is zero, out of 160, tell us. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Sir, this is important. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will give you the data. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: ...because there is no Judge in the Allahabad High Court ...*(Interruptions)*... who belongs to Scheduled Caste. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: And he says that we have sent a letter. ...*(Interruptions)*... They have asked the Chief Justice to follow the guidelines. ...*(Interruptions)*... They never follow it. If they do not follow it, what can you do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another matter. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, we cannot take it that here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: If they use it ...*(Interruptions)*... please send them ...*(Interruptions)*... Why do you not send their names back to them ...*(Interruptions)*... saying that you send the names of SC, ST and OBC and minorities; I have included it as per the guidelines? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Satishji, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: Therefore, it should be sent back. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why should they put a stamp on it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think, it calls for a serious discussion between you and the Minister. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: And there is no prohibition for reservation in High Court and Supreme Court ...*(Interruptions)*... under Articles 124 and 217. ...*(Interruptions)*... Is any prohibition there? ...*(Interruptions)*... You can still make a reservation over there under your Rules because it is a State. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Can we. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: ..and this falls within the definition of 'State'. ...*(Interruptions)*... The High Court and Supreme Court are not beyond the State. ...*(Interruptions)*... And Article 16(4) deals with respect to State. And it says they can frame reservation for them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Satishji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: If the High Court Judges and the Supreme Court Judges get salary as a State ...*(Interruptions)*... then, you should make reservation for them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are learned in law. The hon. Minister is learned in law. ...*(Interruptions)*... You can discuss this. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please ask your question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Question No. 137, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let the Question be answered. ...*(Interruptions)*... Minister of Agriculture. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: This is a serious issue, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is not your question. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, my main question was. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा: सर, इस इश्यू पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा होनी चाहिए।

श्री सभापति: आप नोटिस दीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मिश्रा: आप इस पर आधे घंटे की चर्चा करवाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: They are agreeing to it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Government is agreeing to it. ...*(Interruptions)*... No problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA MISRA: When there is no prohibition, why no reservation? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Sir, I am asking on the issue of reservation. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is a serious issue, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... There should be one hour discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Dr. Kanwar Deep Singh.

Decreasing land area under cultivation

*137.DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the area of land under cultivation is decreasing; and
- (b) if so, the rate of decrease during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) As per report on Land Use Statistics for 2012-13 (latest available), total land under cultivation/cultivable land in the country has marginally declined from 182.01 million hectares in 2010-11 to 181.96 million hectares in 2011-12 and further to 181.95 million hectares in 2012-13. The average decrease in the cultivable land in the country during the above period has been 0.03 million hectares per year.

DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Sir, my main question to hon. Minister of Agriculture was whether the land under cultivation is decreasing, for which my assessment was right, as the reply is that the land is decreasing. In the last four years, about 8 lakh hectares land under cultivation has decreased. Sir, apart from that, the average land holding has also