

(c) the details of the achievements made by Government in this regard, during the last three years; and

(d) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government to create awareness among the people to avail themselves of the free legal aid scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In terms of Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, a member of Scheduled Tribe who has to file or defend a case is entitled to legal services under the said Act. These legal services are provided by Taluk Legal Services Committees, District Legal Services Authorities, State Legal Services Authorities, High Court Legal Services Committees, and Supreme Court Legal Services Committee. In order to avail the legal services, the person concerned has to approach the concerned Committees/Authorities to which his case pertains to and the concerned Authority provides him with the legal services on being satisfied that the person has a *prima facie* case to prosecute or to defend.

(c) Financial Year	No. of Tribal persons to whom legal aid provided in Nagaland
2001-2002	216
2002-2003	138
2003-2004	75

(d) Efforts are being made by the Nagaland State Legal Services Authority to create awareness among the people to provide free aid schemes by conducting Legal Literacy Camps/Publicity Campaign.

Reservation for economically backward

†671. SHRI DATTAMEGHE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had constituted a Commission for determining criteria for reservation to the economically backward classes among the Castes not covered under reservation;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[19 July, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the composition and the terms and conditions of the Commission;
and

(d) the progress made so far, in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) the Commission was constituted vide Resolution dated 6.1.2004 for a period of one year (upto 5.1.2005). It was to consist of a Chairperson and 4 Members. The Chairman and three Members of the Commission were appointed vide notification dated 22.1.2004.

(d) The Commission has so far held several meetings to deliberate on the issues contained in the terms of reference. A public notice inviting opinion/suggestions of members of public and other concerned organizations has been published in major dailies. The State Governments/ UTs have been requested to highlight issues relevant to the terms of reference of the Commission and also to appoint nodal officers.

The chairperson and one Member of the Commission have tendered their resignations and these have been accepted *w.e.f.* 23rd June, 2004.

Hostels in Nagaland

672. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a good number of working woman/man hostel has-been sanctioned under the central grant (CSS) in Nagaland; and

(b) if so, the names of such hostels set up from 1994-95 up to date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN):
(a) and (b) Under the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Women & Child Development's) Central Sector Plan Scheme of working women's hostels, 8 working women's hostels have been sanctioned in the