312	Written Answers to	[RAJYA SABHA]	Unstarred Question
1	2		3
20.	Maharashtra		40891
21.	Manipur		1343
22.	Meghalaya		627
23.	Mizoram		166
24.	Nagaland		398
25.	NCT of Delhi		4213
26.	Odisha		20332
27.	Puducherry		252
28.	Punjab		10243
29.	Rajasthan		16517
30.	Sikkim		126
31.	Tamil Nadu		22364
32.	Tripura		833
33.	Uttar Pradesh		137465
34.	Uttarakhand		4555
35.	West Bengal		30349
	Total		487803

Implementation of reservation in private sector

2838. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the dialogue process initiated with industry on affirmative action, including implementation of reservation to SCs/STs for employment in private sector, has yielded desired results; and
 - (b) if so, the details of the outcome of the dialogue/discussion held so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) A Coordination Committee for affirmative action in the private Sector was set up by the Prime Minister

Office in 2006. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is providing the secretarial assistance to the committee. So far 9 meetings of Coordination Committee have been held. In the first Coordination Committee meeting, it was stated that the best course for achieving progress on the issue of affirmative action is through voluntary action by the industry itself.

In the context of reservation in private sector, the industry representatives are of the view that reservation is not a solution but are willing to partner with the Government and appropriate agencies in enhancing and expanding current recruitment policy for the marginalized section, especially the SC and ST at all levels, as also to encourage skill development and training.

Accordingly, the Apex Industry Associations namely Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Associate Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHEM), have prepared Voluntary Code of Conduct (VCC) for their member companies centered around education, employability, entrepreneurship and employment to achieve inclusion. Measures undertaken by the member of Industry Associations, *inter alia*, includes scholarships, vocation training, entrepreneurship development programmes and coaching etc. Further, in the 8th Meeting of the Coordination Committee, the Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI) has also been included as a stakeholder.

Curbing begging at religious sites

2839. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to curb begging at renowned religious sites in the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) how many beggar homes are at present, near about the religious sites all over the country and whether Government proposes to open more beggar homes, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) The States are responsible for taking necessary preventive and rehabilitative steps for beggars. As per available information, 20 States and 2 Union Territories have either enacted their own Anti-Beggary Legislation or adopted legislations enacted by other States/UTs. Presently, there is no scheme being implemented by this Ministry for beggars.