

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA) : (a) Yes Sir, All the schemes of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have guidelines for proper implementation and the implementing agencies are required to comply with guidelines.

(b) Regular monitoring of these schemes is being done through progress reports, meetings, conferences, video conferencing and regular field visits. Proposals are scrutinized by Multidisciplinary State Level Grant-in-aid Committee and submission of Utilization Certificate duly verified by Chartered Accountant.

(c) and (d) No data regarding number of SC persons living below the poverty line is available in the Ministry. However, all such schemes being implemented for the welfare of Scheduled Castes have the objective of developing a balanced and egalitarian society in India.

Anomaly in reservation for OBCs

†3631. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision about the sub-categorisation of the Other Backward Castes (OBCs);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the objectives thereof;

(c) whether any time-limit has been fixed to complete this work;

(d) whether it is a fact that even if a candidate from OBC category scores equal marks to that of a candidate from General category, yet he is considered as an OBC candidate; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government would make an effort to address this anomaly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL) : (a) to (c) The Government has constituted a four-member Commission headed by Justice (Retd.) G. Rohini, Chief Justice (Retd.), Delhi High Court on 2nd October, 2017 under article 340 of the Constitution to examine the issues of the sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes with the following terms of reference:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (i) to examine the extent of inequitable distribution of benefits of reservation among the castes or communities included in the broad category of Other Backward Classes with reference to such classes included in the Central List;
- (ii) to work out the mechanism, criteria, norms and parameters in a scientific approach for sub-categorisation within such Other Backward Classes; and
- (iii) to take up the exercise of identifying the respective castes or communities or sub-castes or synonyms in the Central List of Other Backward Classes and classifying them into their respective sub-categories.

The term of the Commission has been extended from time to time and is at present upto 31.07.2019. The Commission has not submitted its report to the Government.

(d) and (e) As per instructions issued by the Government, in direct recruitments to Central Government jobs and services, the reserved category candidates, who are selected on the same standard as applied to general candidates, will not be adjusted against reserved vacancies. Only when a relaxed standard is applied in selecting a reserved candidate, for example in the age limit, experience, qualification, permitted number of chances in written examination, etc. such candidates will be counted against reserved vacancies.

Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana in Andhra Pradesh

3632. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of beneficiaries who availed the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) during the last two years; and
- (b) the funds allocated to Andhra Pradesh under this yojana, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA) : (a) 1,01,055 beneficiaries have been covered by the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) across the country since the inception of the Scheme (*w.e.f.* 01.04.2017).

(b) Under the Scheme, there is no provision to allocate the funds to the State/ UT Administrations, instead funds are released to the "Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)" under the administrative control of this Ministry, as a sole implementing agency of the Scheme.