castes and tribes which are specifically notified as Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes as per Presidential Order under the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 amended from time to time are enumerated.

Status of NATGRID project

379. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) Project and the expected timeline for completion;

(b) the list of databases that will be linked to NATGRID; and

(c) whether Government shall use privately held databases from online aggregators which provide booking services for airlines, hotels and similar services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) NATGRID has been created as an IT platform to assist the Security and law enforcement agencies to counter terror for national security. Physical infrastructure for NATGRID will be completed by 31.03.2020 and IT Solution will go live by 31.12.2020.

(b) and (c) NATGRID will link several databases including Railways, Police, Stolen Vehicles, Immigration, Airline, Passports, Vehicles ownership, Driving Licenses, PAN data etc.

Dual citizenship agreements

380. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of countries with whom India has dual citizenship agreements;

(b) how many foreign citizens have availed this facility so far, the country-wise details thereof;

(c) how many Tamils were to be covered for granting Indian citizenship and how many have been given so far by way of bilateral agreement with Sri Lanka;

(d) how many Sri Lankan Tamils have applied for Indian citizenship; and

(e) whether Government would consider entering into bilateral agreement with Sri Lankan Government for offering dual citizenship to facilitate their requests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) Dual citizenship is not permitted as per the provisions of Article 9 of Constitution of India read with Section 9 of the Citizenship Act, 1955.

(c) In the Sirimavo - Shastri Agreement of 1964 it was stipulated that India would grant citizenship to 5,25,000 persons while Sri Lanka would accept 3,00,000 Indian Origin Tamils (IOTs) in the ratio of 7:4 and the status of remaining 1,50,000 persons was to be considered later. Then in the Sirimavo-Indira Gandhi Agreement of 1974, the remaining OTs were to be accepted as citizens of India and Sri Lanka in the ratio of 1:1 along with natural increase in their numbers. IOTs of Sri Lanka were registered as Citizens of India under the provisions of section 5(1)(b) of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and passports were issued to them. As per information supplied by Public (Rehabilitation) Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, a total of 4,61,639 IOTs were repatriated to India from Sri Lanka under the aforesaid agreements up to the year 2006. In 1988 the Sri Lankan Parliament passed the Grant of Citizenship to Stateless Persons Act which granted Sri Lankan citizenship to all Indian Tamils who had not applied for Indian Citizenship under the previous agreement. Subsequently on 7th October 2003, the Sri Lankan Parliament passed the Grant of Citizenship to persons of Indian Origin Act No. 35 of 2003 which granted Sri Lankan citizenship to all Indian Tamils who had been residing in Sri Lanka since October 1964 and their descendants.

(d) No such records are maintained.

(e) No such proposal is under consideration.

Rise in rape cases

†381. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cases of rape are continuously on the rise in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether Government is planning to take any concrete and effective steps to stop it; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.