GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 104
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2022

RAW CASTE CENSUS AND SECC 2011

104 SHRI P. WILSON:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the basis and reasons for Government's caste census(SECC) conducted in 2011 with the help of office of Registrar General of India, which year the enumeration was completed, the details of data collected and manner of State support for enumeration and details of budgetary allocation for the same ;
(b) when and to which expert committee did Government entrusted the raw caste census of SECC 2011 for verification; and
(c) the details of State Governments seeking for furnishing raw caste data for implementation of caste reservations/ local body elections and what prevents the Government from furnishing the same?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) Recognising the multi-dimensional nature of poverty and for better targeting of poor in order to ameliorate their conditions, Socio Economic and Caste Census (SECC)-2011 was conducted to help the Government to generate programme specific priority lists for targeting beneficiaries. SECC-2011 was conducted by State Governments/Union Territories with financial support from Government of India where besides the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation and Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner were also involved. The Office of the Registrar General had provided logistics and technical support in conducting SECC-2011. The entire process was concluded on 31.03.2016. An amount of Rs. 4893.60 crore was spent on this exercise. SECC-2011 provides data of households on various aspects of their socio-economic status, viz., housing, landholding/ landlessness, educational status, status of women, the differently abled, occupation, possession of assets, scheduled caste/ scheduled tribe (SC/ST) households, income, etc. The beneficiaries under several schemes of Government of India as well as many State governments are selected based on the (i) “automatically excluded households”, (ii) “automatically included households” and (iii) “deprived households” data of SECC-2011.

(b) The Office of the Registrar General has handed over the raw caste data to Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, which has not entrusted the data to any expert committee.

(c) The State of Maharashtra had requested for the raw SECC caste data. However, the same was found to be not usable due to associated technical flaws and inaccuracies.

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