

**Inclusion of Banjara Community  
in ST List**

394. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to include several Banjara Tribes of different states in the list of Scheduled Tribes by bringing an amendment to the Constitution;

(b) if so, the number of tribes so identified; and

(c) the likely date by which the Constitutional amendment required will be brought before the Parliament?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAN): (a) and (b). The information cannot be disclosed in public interest.

(c). No time limit can be specified since any amendment in the existing lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes can be done only through an Act of Parliament in view of Articles 341 (2) and 342 (2) of the Constitution.

**Crime against Women**

395. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study conducted by the Central Government shows that crime against women in the country has shown alarming increase in the last three years;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in various types of crimes against women in last three years;

(c) the reasons for the same; and

(d) the efforts Government have made to check such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). No study has been conducted by any Central Government Agency on crime against women for the entire country during the last three years. However, the Bureau of Police Research and Development had done a Study in 1986 on "Unnatural deaths of married women with a special reference to dowry deaths—a sample study of Delhi" which was conducted to find out the nature and extent of unnatural deaths of young married women and to ascertain the correlation of such deaths with the evil of dowry.

Available information on crime against women during the year 1984, 1985 and 1986 is given in the statement below.

(d) The prevention of crime falls within the purview of State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. However, the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 has been amended in 1984 and 1986 to make the law regarding offences against women stringent. The Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 have also been amended to deal effectively not only with dowry death cases but also with cases of cruelty to married women. In order to deal better with other criminal offences against women e.g. illegal sale of girls for trafficking, 'Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act' has been amended and the amended Act is known as Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1986.