

surveys' are conducted and definite criteria are worked out;

(c) whether he recommended the setting up of a high level Committee of experts and other representatives for a very thorough and detailed study for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the reason for appointing an Advisory Committee of officials (Lokur Committee) to do the job in spite of the aforesaid recommendations?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha): (a) to (d). Yes; Government have taken into consideration all the relevant factors including the views of the Commissioner before appointing the Advisory Committee.

Lokur Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

4100. Shri P. R. Thakur: Will the Minister of Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the Lokur Committee had named certain communities which prima facie appear to be sufficiently advanced, to justify their exclusion from the existing lists, even though according to the Committee itself an intensive survey was necessary to ascertain the social, educational and economic progress made by each of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes from time to time; and

(b) Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha): (a) The Lokur Committee did not recommend the exclusion of any community on the ground that the community was sufficiently advanced.

(b) Does not arise.

Lokur Committee on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

4101. Shri P. R. Thakur: Will the Minister of Social Welfare be pleased to state:

(a) the basis on which the Lokur Committee has expressed itself against the scheduling of displaced persons from East Pakistan, who are settled outside West Bengal but belong to the communities treated as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in West Bengal;

(b) whether any detailed and systematic survey or investigation was ever undertaken to substantiate the Committee's observation that caste distinction in the case of these persons is practically non-existent;

(c) whether Government are conscious of the adverse repercussions of the steps proposed by the Lokur Committee on the entire programme of rehabilitation of these people outside West Bengal; and

(d) whether Government propose to lay down that a person belonging to a Schedule Caste or Tribe moving to another State where his caste/tribe is not scheduled, will continue to be treated as a Scheduled Caste/Tribes person at least for one generation, as recommended by the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his Eighth Report?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha): (a) and (b). The relevant portion from the Lokur Committee Report is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-853/67].

(c) The whole question of revision of lists of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is still under consideration.

(d) No.