

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3986  
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2003  
RESERVATION TO POOR  
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI;VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

**Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Attorney-General has suggested to the Union Government that a Constitutional Amendment may be made to allow reservation for the poor among the upper castes as Article 16(4) of the Constitution prohibits any reservation solely and exclusively on economic criteria;
- (b) if so, whether the Government propose to make any legislation in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.C. THOMAS)

- (a) The Learned Attorney General has opined that reservation for Economically Backward Sections can be made permissible only through a Constitutional amendment.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.