

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3832
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2002
COMMISSION ON SCHEDULED AREAS AND TRIBES
PRABODH PANDA

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have constituted Second National Commission on the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes;
- (b) if so, the functions of this Commission; and
- (c) the time by which the Commission is likely to submit its report?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Second Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission has been constituted under Article 339 (1) of the Constitution w.e.f. 18.7.2002.

(b) A statement indicating the terms of reference of the Commission is enclosed.

(c) The Commission is likely to submit its report within a period of one year from the date of its notification. Statement The functions as indicated in the terms of reference of the Scheduled Areas and Scheduled Tribes Commission are given below:

(1) Keeping in view the various provisions of the Constitution and taking an overview of the tribal scenario in the country the Commission shall adumbrate a perspective and a vision for the future and formulate an outline of a viable comprehensive tribal policy.

(2) It shall examine the constitutional provisions in so far as they relate to the Scheduled Tribes, with a view to constitutional, legal, financial and administrative devices for promotion of tribal interests and recommend measures for adequate and appropriate operation of the Fifth and Sixth Schedule of the Constitution.

(3) The Commission shall review the functioning of policies, programmes and schemes being followed as per the recommendations of the Dhebar Commission and/or being implemented otherwise and suggest formulations in this regard as may be called for.

(4) It shall examine the development strategies followed so far and in particular, it shall scrutinize the tribal sub-plan integrated approach covering facets like.

(a) plan and non-plan sectors of agriculture and allied sectors, forest, education, health, employment, role of financial and cooperative institutions, displacement of tribals,

(b) protective measures of a legal and administrative nature as in the fields of land alienation, money-lending, excise etc.,

(c) financial and budgetary arrangements and make such suggestions for modifications and innovations as it may consider necessary.

(5) It shall examine the socio-political and administrative set-up, particularly with reference to Part IX of the Constitution relating to Panchayats and the provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act 1996, and suggest measures to make it effective for self-governance and socio-economic advancement of the tribal people.

(6) Any other matter connected with the administration of the Scheduled Areas and/or the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes of the States and Union territories.