

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4023

ANSWERED ON:20.12.2005

INCLUSION OF DARJEELING DISTRICT IN SIXTH SCHEDULE OF THE CONSTITUTION

Ajaya Kumar Shri S.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any representation for inclusion of Darjeeling district of West-Bangal in the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) & (b): Shri Subhash Ghisingh, former Chairperson and presently Administrator of Darjeeling Gorkha Hill Council (DGHC) has been requesting Government of India to confer constitutional status on the Hill Council under the sixth schedule to the Constitution of India. In a series of tripartite meetings held between Government of India, Government of West Bengal and DGHC, the State Government has supported the demand for including hill areas of Darjeeling District in the sixth schedule of the Constitution.

(c): An 'In Principle Memorandum of Settlement' has been signed on 6.12.2005 between the Government of India, Government of West Bengal and DGHC for creating a new Council for the hill areas of Darjeeling District under the Sixth Schedule of Constitution of India, to replace the existing DGHC.