

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3043  
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006  
AMBEDKAR AWARDS  
Sumbrui Shri Bagun

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

- (a) whether the Government had constituted Dr. Ambedkar International Award for Social Change and National Award for Social Understanding and Upliftment of Weaker Sections in beloved memory of Baba Saheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar to be given annually;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the recipients of such awards since its inception;
- (d) whether Dr. Ambedkar International Award for the year 2000 and Dr. Ambedkar National Award after the year 1998 have not been given so far;
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Dr. Ambedkar National Award for Social Understanding and Upliftment of Weaker Sections and International Award for Social Change were instituted in the year 1992 and 1995 respectively.

The scrutiny and final selection of Awards is made by a Jury appointed by the Government. The Jury comprises of Vice President, Speaker, Lok Sabha as ex-officio members in the case of International award and Vice President and Chief Justice of India in the case of National award along with five other eminent persons nominated by the President of India. All persons or group of persons or organisations regardless of race, caste, creed or sex are eligible for the awards. Recipients: International Award : Shri Murlidhar Devidas Amte (Baba Amte) (1999); Shri Remy Fernand Claude Satorre of Spain (2000). National Award: National Institute of Social Work & Social Sciences, Bhubaneswar (1993); Rayat Shikshan Sansthan, Satara, Maharashtra (1994); Rama Krishna Mission Ashram, Bastar, M.P. (1996); Kasturba Gandhi Kanya Gurukulam, Vedaranyam, Tamil Nadu (1998).

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) & (f) The International Award Jury meeting for the year 2001 was fixed on 19.3.2002 and was postponed due to the sudden demise of Speaker Lok Sabha. Later the term of the Jury expired and was reconstituted on 20.5.2003. The matter was being processed for awards for 2001, 2002 and 2003 when Lok Sabha was dissolved prematurely and General Elections were announced.

The matter is under consideration.