

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1244  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2006  
NON RECOGNITION OF CASTES IN SCS LIST  
Gandhi Smt. Maneka

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

- (a) whether the Namasudra, Poundra and Majhi castes have still not been recognized by the Government as Scheduled Castes (SCs) in their respective States;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which these castes are likely to be recognized as SCs?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Namasudra community is specified as Scheduled Caste in the States of Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Orissa, Tripura and West Bengal. Pod and Poundra communities have been specified as Scheduled Caste in West Bengal. Proposal for inclusion of Namasudra, Poundra and Majhi communities in the list of Scheduled Castes in Andhra Pradesh, Andman & Nicobar Islands, Bihar, Chhattishgarh, National Capital Territory of Delhi, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttaranchal had been referred to concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administration for furnishing ethnographic information. Proposal for inclusion of Pod, Poundra communities in the list of Scheduled Castes in Orissa has been referred to the Registrar General of India for their comments. No time frame can, however, be assigned in the matters, as the proposals require consultation with various agencies.