

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2510
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2006
INTER CASTE MARRIAGES
Mediyam Dr. Babu Rao

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

- (a) whether recently the Supreme Court has directed the administration and police throughout the country to protect the couples of inter-caste marriages from harassment and violence;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. In WP (Criminal) No. 208 of 2004 in the matter of Lata Singh vs. State of UP and Anr., the Hon'ble Supreme Court has directed the administration and police authorities throughout the country to see to it that, if any boy or girl, who is a major, undergoes inter-caste or inter-religious marriages with a woman or man who is a major, the couple are not harassed by any one nor subjected to threats or acts of violence, and any one who gives such threats or harasses or commits acts of violence either himself or at his instigation, is taken to task by instituting criminal proceedings by the police against such persons and further stern action is taken against such persons as provided by law.