

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1757
ANSWERED ON:20.07.2004
INCLUSION OF MANDI CASTE IN STS LIST
Singh Shri Ganesh

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Mandi caste in Madhya Pradesh is included in the List of Scheduled Tribes;
- (b) if not, whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal to the Union Government for including Mandi caste in the list of Scheduled Tribes;
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by the Union Government in this regard; and
- (d) the percentage of tribal families in the country who have improved their social and educational condition?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) & (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No such data is maintained in this Ministry. However, under 11(b) of 20 points programme, 7.66 lakhs and 8.27 lakhs families were economically assisted under different sector during the year 2002-03 and 2003-04 respectively in order to improved their economic condition. Ministry has also been implementing different educational schemes to improve the literacy rate of the Scheduled Tribe families in the country.

The percentage of Scheduled Tribes population living below poverty line out of the total population of Scheduled Tribes has come down from 50.8% in 1993-94 to 44.6% in 1999-2000. The literacy rate has also improved from 16.35% in 1981 to 46.48% in 2001.