

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:55
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2007
DELIMITATION EXERCISE IN JHARKHAND
Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received representations regarding the need to maintain status quo ante with regard to the seats reserved for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha and in the State Legislative Assembly constituencies in the context of the exercise of delimitation undertaken through the Delimitation Commission, particularly from Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (c) the present status of the delimitation exercise undertaken so far in respect of each State/Union territory?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY)

(a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. The Government has received numerous representations inter alia challenging the proposals / orders of the Delimitation Commission relating to reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and changes in the status of the presently reserved seats. In some of the representations, it has also been demanded that appropriate status quo be maintained in respect of the delimitation process. For example, in respect of Assam, it has been demanded that unless the National Register of Citizens is updated / completed, the delimitation process should be postponed. In respect of Arunachal Pradesh, the State Assembly has passed a resolution in favour of maintaining the status quo in respect of over all delimitation of constituencies in the State. In respect of Jharkhand, the State has vociferously opposed the proposal to reduce the number of seats reserved for the Scheduled Tribes in the State Legislative Assembly from the existing 28 to 21

(c): A Statement containing summary of delimitation exercise completed/underway as provided by the Delimitation Commission on the 6th August, 2007 is laid on the Table of the House.