

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1615  
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2007  
COMMITTEES ON WELFARE OF DALITS  
Sarvey Shri Sathyanarayana

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

- (a) whether the Government has formed any committees or groups on different issues related to the welfare and development of Dalits;
- (b) if so, the details of each committee;
- (c) whether such committees have submitted their recommendations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the follow-up action thereon;
- (e) whether some committees have not submitted their reports so far; and
- (f) if so, the specific reasons therefor and the time by which said committees are likely to submit their reports?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (f) Different Committees/Groups are set up at the official level from time to time on issues related to development of Scheduled Castes.

However, for a comprehensive review of strategies, policies and programmes in the Eleventh Five Year Plan, a Steering Committee on Empowerment of SCs, OBCs, and Minorities was set by Planning Commission in May 2006. It consists of fifty Member including Secretaries of four National Commissions i.e. for Scheduled Castes; Safai Karamcharis; Minorities and Backward Classes, academicians and social activists. Similarly, a Working Group on Empowerment of Scheduled Castes was set up to review the policies and programmes for development of Scheduled Castes in a focused manner.

The Working Group in its report submitted to Planning Commission has, inter alia, recommended.

- # Proper implementation of the strategy of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan
- # Continuation of major schemes of the Ministry for welfare of SCs
- # Expanding the coverage of schemes
- # Modification in some of the existing schemes