

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:59
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2005
WELFARE AND RESERVATION OF CHRISTIAN TRIBAL COMMUNITY
Gadakh Shri Tukaram Gangadhar

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware about the various tribal groups in Christian Community;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has any separate list for these tribal communities;
- (c) whether the tribal groups under Christian community do not get the benefits and relaxation, reservations like other Tribal communities in India;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for the welfare of Tribals amongst Christian community?

Answer

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

(a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Religion is no bar for notification of Scheduled Tribes. The procedure for notification of Scheduled Tribes is contained under Article 342 of the Constitution of India. The lists of Scheduled Tribes are State/Area specific and not religion specific. All the Scheduled Tribes including STs of the Christian Community are eligible for getting uniform benefits under various programmes being implemented by the Government.