

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1979**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15th DECEMBER, 2021/ AGRAHAYANA 24, 1943 (SAKA)
OBCs IN CURRENT CENSUS**

1979. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of estimates provided by NSSO about OBC population in the country since it started its estimates on OBCs, survey-wise;

(b) the constraints that the Ministry have in counting OBCs in the current 2021 Census since Census which was last conducted on OBCs is more than 9 decades ago;

(c) whether the Ministry is aware that the Andhra Pradesh Assembly passed a resolution for taking up Census of OBCs; and

(d) if so, whether the Ministry will consider counting OBCs in the current Census?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI NITYANAND RAI)**

(a) : National Sample Survey (NSS) is not specifically designed to estimate population of country as well as that of any social group. The information on household social group is collected in household based survey of NSS for categorisation purposes only.

(b) to (d) : The Ministry is aware that a resolution to conduct caste based census has been passed by Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly. The Census Schedule is designed in consultation with various stakeholders including Central Ministries. The population Census is not an ideal instrument for caste-wise/Other Backward Class (OBC) enumeration of population. The Government of India has not enumerated caste wise population other than Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in Census since independence.