

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -136  
ANSWERED ON - 07/12/2022

**INITIATIVES FOR SOCIAL UNITY**

136. SHRI ANIL DESAI

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

- (a) whether it is also an objective and mandate of the Ministry to ensure that there is no enmity among the various castes and creeds of the society;
- (b) what action or efforts have been taken by the Ministry/Government or mandated to take such steps to ensure unity among the various sections of the society; and
- (c) how many NGOs are active to achieve the objective and if any Government grant or assistance has been given to such NGOs during last three years, details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI A. NARAYANASWAMY)

(a) to (c) The untouchability (Offences) Act 1955, was enacted to abolish Untouchability and forbide its practice in any form. This Act was amended and renamed in 1976 as the "Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955". As the PCR Act covered offences of untouchability, but not of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and the Scheduled Tribes (STs), another Act of Parliament namely the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) {PoA} Act, 1989 was enacted to prevent the commission of offences of atrocities against members of Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).

For the effective implementation of these Acts, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 is in force to provide admissible Central assistance to State Governments and Union Territory Administrations towards effective implementation of the PCR Act and the PoA Act inter-alia for

providing incentive for Inter-Caste marriages where one of the spouse is a member of Scheduled Caste.

The funding pattern of the Scheme is as such that total expenditure over and above the committed liability is shared on 50:50 basis between the Central Government and concerned State Government and the Union Territory Administration receives 100% Central assistance. As per the information received from the State Governments/UT Administrations, the number of couples provided incentive for inter-caste marriage under the scheme in the last three F.Y are as under

S.No	F.Y	Number of couples provided incentive for inter caste marriage
1	2019-20	23355
2	2020-21	20237
3	2021-22	22323

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