

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

**STARRED QUESTION NO. †*204
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.01.2018**

INTER-CASTE MARRIAGES

**†*204. SHRI NAGAR RODMAL:
SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has reduced the financial assistance/incentives for Inter-Caste Marriages from five lakh rupees to two lakh fifty thousand rupees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the financial assistance for Inter-Caste Marriage under Dr. Ambedkar Scheme for Social Integration through Inter-Caste Marriage and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said scheme has achieved its targets since its implementation in 2013; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the steps taken/being taken to achieve the target set under the scheme?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT)**

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in answer to part (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 204, regarding 'Inter-Caste Marriages' by Shri Nagar Rodmal and Shri Gaurav Gogoi.

(a)&(b): Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, incentive for inter-caste marriages, where one of the spouses is a member of a Scheduled Caste is provided. As per the Scheme, expenditure on such incentive amount is shared on 50:50 basis between the Center and the State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations get 100% Central assistance. Earlier the quantum of incentive amount decided and provided by the respective State Governments/UT Administrations varied between Rs. 10,000/- to Rs 5,00,000/-. From 2017-18 to 2019-20, a uniform incentive amount of Rs. 02.50 lakh is provided in each case for all States/UTs. Any expenditure on the incentive amount in addition of Rs. 2.50 lakhs, if provided by a State/UT, would not be shared under the Scheme and be borne by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration.

(c) to (e): Dr. Ambedkar Foundation under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, implements 'Dr. Ambedkar Scheme for Social Integration through Inter-Caste Marriages', where one of the spouses belongs to a Scheduled Caste and the other belongs to a non-Scheduled Caste and the marriage is required to be registered under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. Though there are no specific State/UT wise targets for a financial year under the Scheme, the District Collector/District Magistrate in a State/UT has been authorized to directly forward the proposal to the Foundation and the proposal is deemed valid within one year of such a marriage. There is no proposal to increase the existing incentive amount of Rs. 2.50 lakh to an eligible couple. The said Scheme introduced in the year 2013-14 and circulated to States/UTs, did not receive proposals from them during the year 2013-14. Nevertheless, position in regard to proposals sanctioned under the Scheme for subsequent years i.e. 2014-15 to 2017-18, is indicated as under:-

Financial year	Number of proposals sanctioned
2014-15	05
2015-16	72
2016-17	45
2017-18	87
