

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3174**

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 14.03.2018

Judges from SC/ST/OBC Category

3174. DR. RAVINDRA BABU:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that as per National Commission for Scheduled Castes's report of 2011, there are only 21 judges from SC/ST community in High Courts against a total number of 850 judges and 14 out of 21 High Courts did not have a single judge from these communities; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to provide opportunities for citizens from SC, ST and OBC category to become judges?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)**

(a) and (b): Yes Madam. The appointment of Judges of the High Courts is made under Article 217 of the Constitution of India, which does not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, no caste or class-wise data relating to High Court Judges is maintained. The Government has, however been requesting the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women.
