GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1435

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH FEBRUARY, 2019/ MAGHA 23, 1940 (SAKA) RELIGIOUS CONVERSION

1435. SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that large number of individuals/families are converting from one religion to another religion across the country to save/ safeguard themselves from atrocities/ tortures by other castes/communities by sacrificing their reservation rights in education and jobs;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to change their community/caste at the time of conversion of religion; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)

(a) to (d): 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. Hence prevention, detection, registration, investigation and prosecution of offences related to religious conversions are primarily the concern of the State Governments/UT Administrations. Action is taken as per existing laws by the law enforcing agencies in States/UTs when instances of violation come to notice.

Some State Governments have enacted laws providing for the prohibition of conversion from one religious faith to any other religious faith by the use of force, inducement, fraudulent means, etc.
