

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2418**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 18/12/2023

**NEW COMMUNITIES IN ST LIST**

2418. SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the criteria for including new communities as STs is obsolete;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to amend/ revise that criteria;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government intends to bring a comprehensive Bill that includes all eligible communities into the ST list that had been left out over the years; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI BISHWESWAR TUDU)

**(a) to (f):** The Government of India on 15.6.1999 (further amended on 25.6.2002 and 14.9.2022) has approved the modalities for deciding the claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in the Orders specifying lists of Scheduled Tribes. According to these modalities, only those proposals which have been recommended and justified, along with ethnographic details by the State Government/UT Administration concerned, can be processed further. Thereafter, it has to be concurred with by the Registrar General of India (RGI) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) before being considered for amendment legislation. All actions are taken as per these approved modalities. These modalities are adequate for consideration of proposals for inclusion of communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes of a State/UT. These modalities are adequate for consideration of proposals for inclusion of communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes of a State/UT.

The proposals for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes of a State or Union Territory follow certain processes as per the modalities. This is a continuous process. Proposals received from the State Government should be accompanied by an ethnographic report. The proposals are examined by the Office of the RGI and then by the NCST. In case the proposal is not recommended by the RGI, the State Governments are communicated the points raised by the RGI, so that additional information, if any, maybe furnished by the State Government.

\*\*\*\*\*