

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2333
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2021**

INCLUSION OF BACKWARD CLASSES IN THE LIST OF SCs

2333. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

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

- (a) whether the State Government of Bihar has sent a proposal to the Union Government for inclusion of extremely backward classes-Mallah, Nishad and its nine sub-castes in the list of Scheduled Castes (SCs);
- (b) if so, the details and present status thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has either rejected or put on hold a plan to change the criteria and procedure for inclusion of the said communities in the SCs list;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the response of the State Government thereon; and
- (e) the time by which the Government is likely to include the said castes in the SCs list keeping in view their extreme social and economic backwardness?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA)**

(a) & (b): Government of Bihar had sent proposals of Mallah and Bind communities for their inclusion in the list of Scheduled Castes. The said proposals were examined as per approved modalities, in consultation with the Registrar General of India (RGI). As the RGI did not support the proposal of Mallah caste even on a second reference, the same has been rejected with the approval of competent authority. Proposal in respect of Bind caste was not supported by the RGI, accordingly it has been referred back to the State Government with a request to review or further justify their recommendation in the light of observations of RGI. There is no proposal from Government of Bihar for inclusion of Nishad and its sub-castes in the list of Scheduled Castes.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e): As any amendment in the list of Scheduled Castes can be made only by an Act of Parliament in view of clause (2) of Article 341 of the Constitution of India, no time frame can be assigned in the matter.
