

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3596  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17.12.2024**

**DISQUALIFICATION OF CONVERTED MEMBERS**

**†3596. DR. MANNA LAL RAWAT:**

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

- (a) whether there is any provision to disqualify/deprive those persons of minority community from the eligibility of SC/ST category who have given up their 'specific culture' and converted to Christianity and Islam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including Scheduled Castes (SCs)/Scheduled Tribes (STs) in this regard;
- (c) if not, whether the Government proposes to disqualify converted members from the definition of Scheduled Tribes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE)**

(a) & (b): As per Para 3 of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, as amended from time to time, members of Scheduled Castes who profess a religion different from the Hindu, the Sikh or the Buddhist religion shall not be deemed to be the members of Scheduled Caste.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs has informed that as regards the Scheduled Tribes, they may profess any religion.

(c): No proposal is under consideration to disqualify converted members from the definition of Scheduled Tribes.

(d): Does not arise.

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