

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4039
TO BE ANSWERED ON 19/12/2024

INCLUSION OF COMMUNITIES IN ASSAM'S ST LIST

4039. Shri Pradyut Bordoloi:
Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:
Shri Phani Bhusan Choudhury:

Will the Minister of **Tribal Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total population of tribals staying in Assam and the percentage of tribal population getting reservation thereof;
- (b) whether a proposal has been received or any bill/legislation was introduced for the inclusion of the Tai Ahom, Chutia, Matak, Moran, Koch-Rajbongshi and Tea Tribe communities in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list of Assam and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the said proposal has received approval from the Registrar General of India and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, if so, the details and the current status thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the reasons for not including the above six communities in Assam's ST list and the timeline by which such inclusion would take place;
- (e) whether the same communities are getting the tribal status in Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh and not in Assam and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government has formulated any measures to secure the well-being of the six communities without disturbing the rights and quotas of the existing Schedule Tribes and if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) whether any proposal in this regard has been received by the State Government of Assam from the Committee of Ministers created to examine this matter and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a): As per inputs received from the State, the total population of scheduled tribes staying in Assam is 38, 84,371 and the percentage of tribal population getting reservation is 12.4% (as per census of 2011).

(b) to (d): The proposal for inclusion of Tai Ahom, Chutia, Matak, Moran, Koch-Rajbongshi and Tea Tribes has been received from the State Government of Assam.

The Government of India on 15.6.1999 (further amended on 25.6.2002 and 14.9.2022) has laid down the modalities for deciding the claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in Orders specifying Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lists. As per the modalities, only those proposals which have been recommended and justified by the concerned State Government / UT Administration and concurred with by Registrar General of India (RGI) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) are to be considered and legislation amended. All actions on the proposals are taken as per these approved modalities.

(e): The said communities are not listed in the Scheduled Tribes list of Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

(f): The State Government of Assam has informed that "a Committee of Group of Ministers was constituted earlier to determine quantum of reservation for six communities in the State, suggest revised quantum of

reservation for OBCs after creation of a new ST category in Assam and measures ensuring full safeguard to protect the interests, rights and privileges of the existing Scheduled Tribes of Assam. The erstwhile Committee held several rounds of discussions with representatives and leaders of various communities as well as tribal groups. The same Committee has now been reconstituted on 04/07/2024”.

(g): No such proposal has been received from the state Government of Assam.
