

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 4539
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 27/03/2025

SPELLING CHANGE OF SONWAL KACHARI TO SONOWAL KACHARI

4539. SHRI PRADAN BARUAH:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of the spelling change of Sonwal Kachari to Sonowal Kachari in the Constitution of India;
- (b) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Assam regarding the same; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a) to (c): 'Sonwal' is notified subtribe of 'Kachari' tribe in the Bodoland Territorial Areas District and excluding the autonomous districts of Karbi Anglong and North Cachar Hills at entry II (5) in the list of STs for the State of Assam. The proposal for correction of 'Sonwal' to 'Sonowal' was received from Government of Assam vide letter dated 21/08/2024 without ethnographic.

Government of India on 15.6.1999 (further as 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. The proposal for inclusion in, exclusion from and modifications in the lists of STs should be accompanied by an ethnographic report. 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.

In view of the above, the proposal was referred back to Government of Assam on 19/09/2024 requesting to submit the proposal alongwith ethnographic report.
