

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
(MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS)
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 917
TO BE ANSWERED ON - 04.12.2025

INCLUSION OF KISHI/VISHYA/CHASOT IN ST LIST

917. SHRI ISHA KHAN CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware that the State Government of Bihar, vide its letter dated 15.05.2008, had recommended inclusion of Kishi/Vishya/Chasot as synonyms of Kisan community in the Scheduled Tribes list and that the Registrar General of India had supported the same, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware that a portion of the present Malda District in West Bengal was historically part of Purnia District of Bihar and that a significant number of Chasot people belonging to the same ethnic group continue to reside in Malda District, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has considered extending Scheduled Tribe status and related privileges to the Chasot community residing in Malda district of West Bengal, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether the Government will initiate steps to examine this issue in consultation with the State Government of West Bengal and the Registrar General of India to implement the same in West Bengal?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a) to (d): 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 action on the proposals is taken as per these approved modalities.

A proposal from the State Government of Bihar for inclusion of Krishi Vaishya/Chasot as synonyms of Kisan community in the Scheduled Tribes list of Bihar was received in 2008. As per the approved modalities, the same was referred to the Office of Registrar General of India. However, the ORGI examined and did not support the proposal on two occasions in the years 2008 and 2013. Accordingly, as per the Para (f) of the extant modalities, the proposal was rejected and conveyed to the State Govt of Bihar.
