

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 76
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29.01.2026

ST STATUS TO SIX COMMUNITIES OF ASSAM

76. MD. RAKIBUL HUSSAIN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any action in the last five years regarding the long-pending demand to grant Scheduled Tribe (ST) status to the Six Communities of Assam;
- (b) if so, the details of the proposals submitted by the State Government and their current status;
- (c) whether any expert committee reports or ethnographic studies have been examined by the Government, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the reasons for the continued delay in taking a final decision on this matter despite repeated assurances to the communities?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

(a) 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.

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 these modalities, proposals are required to be recommended and duly justified along with an ethnographic report by the concerned State Government / UT Administration. Thereafter, the proposals are required to be concurred with by the Registrar General of India (RGI) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) to be considered and legislation amended. All action on the proposals is taken as per these approved modalities

The proposals for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes of a State or Union Territory follow certain processes as per the modalities. This is a continuous process. The proposals are examined by the Office of the RGI and then by the NCST. In case the proposal is not recommended by the RGI, the State Governments are communicated the points raised by the RGI, so that additional information, if any, maybe furnished by the State Government. Many such proposals may therefore remain under examination at different levels.
