

Annex III

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

1. The Scheduled Castes are depressed sections of the society who, because of the nature of their work, have faced social exclusion and prejudice. The Scheduled Tribes are tribal communities who have been isolated from the mainstream of society and are economically weak.
 2. Being socially handicapped and economically poor, these sections of society require special protection and help for the amelioration of their social, economic and political condition. The Constitution of India empowers the state to specify these castes or tribes by listing them in a schedule to the Constitution (hence called Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) and make special provisions for their uplift.
-