

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding political reservation to OBC in Maharashtra.

***DR. PRITAM GOPINATHRAO MUNDE (BEED):** Thank you very much. Hon'ble Chairman Sir, I would like to speak in my mother tongue Marathi. Government of Maharashtra is very indifferent towards the issues of Maratha and OBC Reservation. It is also very careless about the issue of SC/ST Reservation and their promotions. These are the issues which I would like to raise today. But, yesterday when the entire country was observing Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar's Mahaparinirvan Day, Supreme Court of India gave its verdict abolishing the political reservation of OBCs. It is really regrettable and shameful that this verdict came on this very day. Now, the Government should postpone the coming election on the basis of this Supreme Court decision and I would like to share my views in this regard.

Panchayati Raj Amendment Bill came into existence in the year 1962 in Maharashtra and it was further amended after the implementation of Mandal Commission Report in the year 1994. It was a statutory decision to provide political reservation to OBCs and not a constitutional one. We should carefully read the Supreme Court decision to understand it.

Government of Maharashtra is indulging in the blame game only. It is a matter of fact that no OBC census took place post independence and even the central government has no concrete information about empirical data of OBCs.

Political reservation was there just because of the positive approach of the political parties and their leaders who were in power in Maharashtra. But, today's Maharashtra Government is not much serious about OBC reservation. I am not a spokesperson of any political party and it is my personal sentiments for OBCs.