

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding reservation of seats for Tamang and Limboo STs in Legislative Assembly of Sikkim.

SHRI INDRA HANG SUBBA (SIKKIM): Sir, the Tamang and Limboo are the two of the major tribal communities of Sikkim. These two tribes make nearly 15 per cent of Sikkim's total population according to Government of India's Census of 2011.

The Tamang and Limboo communities were recognised and notified as Scheduled Tribes in 2002 itself. According to Article 332 of the Constitution of India, the seats for SC and ST in the Legislative Assembly of the State shall be reserved in proportion to the population of Scheduled Tribes in the State. However, Tamang and Limboo tribes are being deprived of their constitutional rights since 2003 despite continuous demand by Tamang, Limboo and other community associations and individuals.

Sir, let me inform you that four Assembly elections have been conducted since the recognition of the two communities as Scheduled Tribes. Also, delimitation of Assembly constituencies in the year of 2006 was conducted without reservation of seats for Tamang and Limboo as mandated by the Constitution. The Tamang and Limboo tribal communities are being deprived of their constitutional rights which is a violation of constitutional provisions, its values, and ethos. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to provide reservation of seats for these ST communities in the Legislative Assembly of Sikkim.