

Seventeenth Loksabha

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Title: Request to set up one Boya, Valmikis Regiment exclusively and provide the ST status to the Boya community.

SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV (HINDUPUR): Thank you very much, Speaker Sir, for giving me this opportunity. One Boya community, known as Valmikis, is the largest living community in Rayalaseema region of Andhra Pradesh. Boyas are known for their bravery, courage, fearlessness, values and loyalty. They are one of the ancient tribes, particularly war tribes. They fought many battles. In earlier days, they served kings and kingdoms like Cholas, Chalukyas, Kakatiya and Vijayanagar with utmost loyalty, valour and values. In the British era, Boya Valmikis were treated as criminal tribe and habitual offenders. In the recent past, Boya Valmikis are being used by warlords, highly influenced politicians, factionists and Naxals for anti-social activities. Due to their innocence, illiteracy, backwardness, Boya Valmikis were involved in brutal killings and as a result of that, if they died, they went to graveyards. If they did not die, they went to jails. Boya Valmikis are known for their loyalty and fighting spirit. They have good qualities, but they are being misused by highly influenced, anti-social elements. So, I request the Union Government, through you, to set up one Boya Regiment exclusively, so that Boya youths can be inducted and they can fight for the country. They will defend the country from enemy countries. ...(*Interruptions*)

More so, in Telugu States, Boya Valmikis who are residing in plain areas are treated as backward classes. The same community in adjoining areas of Telugu States are in ST category. ...(*Interruptions*). I

request the Government to remove this discrimination and do justice to Valmikis who are living in plain areas by granting them ST status.