

Regarding inclusion of Koli, Kuruba and Kabbaliga in the S.T. List

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Now, we take up 'Zero Hour'.

Dr. Umesh G. Jadav.

DR. UMESH G. JADAV (GULBARGA): Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I have been raising a very important issue for the past three years regarding inclusion of Koli, Kuruba and Kabbaliga in the ST List. In this regard, all the Commissions of the State and the State Government have recommended for inclusion of Koli, Kabbaliga and Gangamatha and its synonyms in the ST List of Karnataka. Currently, it is with the RGI for evaluation. Also, the necessary ethnographical study report and tribal character of these tribes in the Census Reports of 1901 to 1931 have been sent by the State Government for the purpose of including them in the ST List.

Currently, some of the communities like Tokre Koli, Dhor Koli, Koya, Kolcha, Kolga, Raj Koya and Bin Koya are included in the ST List of Karnataka since 1976 at serial numbers 22 and 26. But the remaining left over from the Tokre Koli, Koya and Dhor Koli, that is, Koli, Kabbaliga, Gangamatha and their 34 synonyms are also necessary to be included in the ST List of Karnataka.

Hon. Chairperson, Sir, I would like to urge, through you, the hon. Minister of Tribal Affairs that now this file is with the RGI for evaluation. I would request the Minister to get the matter expedited and include the Koli Kabbaliga community in the ST List.

Also, the Gonda, that is, Kuruba of Gulbarga and Bidar districts, are demanding for inclusion of their community in the Scheduled Tribes List. Since Independence, the Kuruba community was having the ST status. In 1977, Justice L.G. Havanur, who headed the Backward Classes Commission, moved the Kurubas to the 'Most Backward Classes' category from the ST List. However, the Commission brought in an area restriction stating that those living in Bidar, Yadgir, Kalaburagi and Madikeri with Kuruba synonyms can continue to avail of the ST benefits, but still people from these districts are denied the ST certificates either for education or for employment.

Sir, with respect to Kuruba, the alternate word for Gonda, in Kalaburagi, Bidar and Yadgir districts, the report of complete genealogical study was passed in the Cabinet of Karnataka Government on 04.03.2014 and a proposal had been sent to the Central Government. Here, I would like to mention that I have met the hon. Minister along with a delegation a couple of times in the past three years to consider this request positively. Since then, it is a long pending demand from my parliamentary constituency and from the State of Karnataka. The people of these two communities are very backward, educationally, economically and socially. If they are included in the ST List, it would help them to get reservation benefits in both education and employment.

Thank you.