

Regarding the issue of Maratha and Dhangar community reservation

SHRI RANJEETSINGH NAIK NIMBALKAR: Hon?ble Chairman Sir, I would like to speak in my mother tongue Marathi. Sir, the issue of Maratha and Dhangar community reservation has become very serious in my State Maharashtra. Sir, the Marathas are around 33% of total population of Maharashtra and Marathas serve this country wherever the need arises Maratha have fought for the cause of Dev, Desh and Dharm. But, now the plight of Marathas is very vulnerable and those who used to own 25 acre of land, they are holding meagre 2.5 acre today. The Maratha youths are facing financial crisis and they do not afford to take quality education. These families are living in abject poverty and the number of farmers suicide cases is very high among Maratha community. They are facing acute hardships and that is why they should be given reservation under OBC quota. Dhangar community is also sailing in the same boat. There is a problem with the spellings of ?Dhangar? and ?Dhangad? community names and there is nobody in Maharashtra who belongs to ?Dhangad? community. Maharashtra government has already clarified that the word is ?Dhangar? and not ?Dhangad?. In the other States except Maharashtra, the Dhangar community is availing all the reservation benefits under ST category but in Maharashtra they are still deprived of it. Hence, through you and this House I would like to request Hon?ble Minister to call a High level meeting urgently to look into this matter on priority. Jai Hind. Jai Maharashtra.