

## **Need to include Lambadi community in Tamil Nadu in the list of Scheduled Tribes-laid**

**SHRI T. M. SELVAGANAPATHI (SALEM):** It has been a long pending demand of the people of Lambadis in Tamil Nadu to include them as Scheduled Tribes. They are deprived of the benefits provided in the Constitution. In 1950 they were identified as Scheduled Castes and Tribes. In many States, they are coming under Scheduled Tribes. In Tamil Nadu their total population is over 2 lakhs. They are now recognized as Backward Class in Tamil Nadu. There is a sizeable population of Lambadis in my Parliamentary Constituency, Salem. The State Government of Tamil Nadu had recommended for the inclusion of Lambadis in the Scheduled Tribe list and had forwarded the same to the Union Government in the year 2009. In 1994 a high-level committee constituted by the National Scheduled Castes and Tribes Commission had recommended that Lambadis may be declared as Scheduled Tribes through a suitable amendment to the Constitution. Therefore, I urge upon the Government to include Lambadis as recommended by the Government of Tamil Nadu, in the list of Scheduled Tribes by way of a suitable Constitutional amendment.