

## **Need to include 'Kuli' as the synonym of 'Kulis' in the list of Scheduled Tribes-Laid**

**SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO (BOLANGIR):** I rise to draw the attention of the House towards the long-pending issue of including the Kuli community as a synonym of Kulis at Serial No. 42 in the Scheduled Tribes (STs) list of Odisha, as per the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27.09.2018 in Civil Appeal No. 7362/2013. The Hon'ble Supreme Court ruled that the term "Kulis" does not represent a separate community in Odisha and that "Kuli" is the singular form of "Kulis" in the English language. The judgment stated that not including "Kuli" under "Kulis" would effectively delete a tribe from the ST list. Following this, the Government of Odisha and various authorities, including the Registrar General of India, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, and the Tribes Advisory Council, approved and recommended the inclusion of "Kuli" as a synonym of "Kulis." Despite these recommendations and repeated correspondence from the State Government, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has not yet acted upon this matter. I urge the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to take immediate steps to include "Kuli" as the singular form of "Kulis" at Serial No. 42 of the ST list in Odisha, thereby implementing the Hon'ble Supreme Court's judgment in its true spirit.