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Title : Need to include 'MARATHI' community of Kasargod district, Kerala in the list of Scheduled Tribe.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): The 'MARATHI' community living in the border areas of Kerala and Karnataka which comes around 35 to 40 thousands and 3 lakhs respectively were included in ST list in the year 1952 and has been enjoying all the facilities provided to the Scheduled Tribe people. But from 2002 onwards, the people living in Kasargod District, Kerala were excluded from the list without proper assessment and verification of their socio-economic conditions, though the same community living just 10 km away from the Kasargod district are still in the list and getting all the facilities. In fact, the financial and educational status of these people still remains backward.

The Government of Kerala from the very beginning made the protest and requested to retain the Marathi Community in the ST list. The SC/ST Commission, the Minority Commission have visited the place and made the same suggestion. All the political parties in Kerala and the various Governments in different times made the same appeal. Recently the Hon'ble Minister for ST, Government of Kerala again made the same request to the Hon'ble Minister for Tribal Affairs. MP's from Kerala have already raised this issue in the Parliament and also met the Hon'ble Minister for Tribal Affairs regarding this issue.

Hence, I urge upon the Government to do the needful for the inclusion of MARATHI Community in the ST List.