

Sixteenth Loksabha

>

Title: Regarding setting up of a National Development Corporation for Scheduled Caste Christian Converts.

SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): Sir, thank you for giving me the opportunity to raise a very important matter of public importance. Sir, the pathetic living conditions of Dalit Christians in this country need to be addressed immediately. Just now, AIADMK leader Shri Venugopal Ji raised this issue. I am fully supporting what he has raised here. The conditions of Dalit Christians were pathetic because of no reservation for them in Government service and educational institutions. Sir, there are so many other communities which are converting to Christians. They are getting reservations, but at the same time, Dalit Christians are not being considered for the reservation facilities. For example, the Dalits who are converting to Buddhism, are getting reservation facilities. The Tribal communities in this country, whether they are Christians and Muslims, all the Tribal communities, are getting reservations in Government services as well as educational institutions. ...(*Interruptions*). I am coming to the point. Dalit Christians are deliberately being discriminated because of their faith. So, I would like to request through you that the Government should consider this issue. ...(*Interruptions*). I am concluding. In Kerala, State Government has formed a Corporation for welfare of Dalit Christians. So, I would request the Government of India to form a national level Corporation for welfare of Dalit Christians.

HON. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Anto Antony and Advocate Joice George are permitted to associate with the issue raised by Shri Kodikunnil Suresh.