

**(viii) Need to bring a comprehensive Bill to amend SC/ST order of 1950.**

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI (Kaliabor): The tea and ex-tea tribes population in Assam constitute 25 per cent of the total population. These people were taken by the British tea planters to Assam in 18th century from Orissa, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal with a view to engage them in tea plantation as labourers. The original character of the said people is tribal. In their State of Origin, most of these people have been recognised as SC/ST *vide* SC/ST order of 1950 and they are getting all the benefits under the Schemes in their respective States but not in the State of Assam. In the State of Assam, they have been recognised as 'Most Other Backward Community' and the benefits rendered under these schemes are very limited. It may be stated here that less than .01 per cent educated persons are there even after 40 years of independence. The people through their social organisations like Assam Adivasi Council, Tea Tribes Youth Association, Purbanchaliya Chah Mazdoor Sangha, Assam, Tea and Ex-Tea Tribes Yuva Chatra Parishad, Assam, Tea and Ex-Tea Tribes Student Association and many other organisations have been demanding from the State Government as well as union Government since 1958 for inclusion of the said communities in SC/ST Order. The Government of India constituted Lokur Commission and A.K. Chanda Commission. These Commissions have given a conscious view that the said communities be included in the Scheduled Caste Order.

Taking all the matters into consideration, the Government of Assam in 1978 had recommended only 9 tribes out of the Tea and Ex-Tea garden tribes of Assam to the Central Government and the matter is hanging in the balance till now. I, therefore, humbly request the Union Government to bring a

comprehensive Bill for amending of the SC/ST Order of 1950 under the Constitution and include all the genuine and deserving castes and communities in the purview of the Scheduled Castes Order.

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THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTERS OFFICE (SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, may I propose that we adjourn for Lunch after the Minister's reply on the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Amendment Bill and the Chandigarh Disturbed areas (Amendment) Bill?

SHRI C. MADAV REDDI (Adilabad): After Lunch let us take up the reply.

SHRIMATI SHEILA DIKSHIT: The Minister has to go to the other House.

SHRI C. MADAV REDDI: If it is a short reply, then I have no objection.

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13.03 hrs.

TERRORIST AND DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES (PREVENTION AMENDMENT BILL-

*Contd.*

AND

CHANDIGARH DISTURBED AREAS (AMENDMENT ) BILL - *Contd.*

[*English*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now the House will take up item nos. 19 and 20. Shri P. Chidambaram.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grate-