

Bill No. 124 of 2025

THE CONSTITUTION (SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

By

DR. BYREDDY SHABARI, M.P.

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BILL

further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. This Act may be called the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Act, 2025.

Short title.

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2. In the Schedule to the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950, in Schedule, in PART I.—*Andhra Pradesh*, after entry 31, the following entry shall be inserted, namely:—

Amendment of
the Schedule.

“31A. Valmiki- Boyas.”.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

The Boya Valmiki are the descendants of Maharishi Valmiki, the esteemed sage who authored the Ramayana. During the British colonial period, they were categorized as martial tribes and were incorporated into the British Army. The Boya Valmiki community, which is dispersed across the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, has long-standing demands that remain unaddressed. Historically, this community has encountered economic, educational, and social disadvantages. They lack traditional means of livelihood and endure significant hardship and neglect. According to a survey report, a substantial portion of Boya Valmiki (47 per cent) are landless, while 45 per cent are classified as small and marginal farmers. Of the land they possess, only 27 per cent has access to irrigation, with the remainder relying on rainfall. The illiteracy rate among heads of households is alarmingly high at 77 per cent, and for adults over the age of 25, the illiteracy rate stands at 54 per cent. A significant majority (61 per cent) of households depend on agriculture and agricultural labor. Approximately 79 per cent of families reside in two or fewer room tenements, with about 50 per cent living in *semi-pucca* houses and 16 per cent in thatched houses; 44 per cent lack any toilet facilities. Regarding household annual income, 80 per cent of households earn less than rupees one lakh, and about 8.6 per cent have an annual income of less than rupees twenty thousand. Their cultural heritage is currently under severe threat, and their extensive knowledge and skills, including martial practices, are gradually fading away. Including them in the central list of Scheduled Tribes would provide them with educational and employment reservations, scholarships and access to Government welfare programs.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
July 9, 2025

BYREDDY SHABARI

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

The Bill seeks to include Valmiki-Boyas to the list of Scheduled Tribes with respect to the State of Andhra Pradesh by way of amending the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950. The Bill, if enacted, would involve recurring and non-recurring expenditure on account of the benefits to be given under the schemes and programmes of the Government meant for social, educational and economic development of the Scheduled Tribes. At this stage, it is not possible to mention the exact amount which may be incurred on this account. However, it is estimated that a sum of approximately rupees one hundred crore is likely to be involved as a recurring expenditure per annum.

A non-recurring expenditure of about rupees thirty crore is also likely to be involved.

ANNEXURE

EXTRACT FROM THE CONSTITUTION
(SCHEDULED TRIBES) ORDER, 1950

C.O. 22

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(PART III.—Rules and Orders under the Constitution)

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PART I.— Andhra Pradesh

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31. Valmiki [in the (Scheduled Areas of Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Vijayanagaram,
East Godavari and West Godavari districts)]

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further to amend the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950.

(Dr. Byreddy Shabari, M.P.)