

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 464
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 03/12/2025**

INCLUSION OF CASTES IN THE LIST OF STs

464 SHRI C. Ve. SHANMUGAM:

Will the Minister of **TRIBAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry considers recommendations from States for inclusion of certain communities/castes in the list of STs in that particular State;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that inclusion of Valmiki Community in the list of STs in Tamil Nadu is pending with the Ministry for proper approval ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) further steps taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)**

(a) to (b): Government of India on 15.6.1999 (further amended on 25.6.2002 and 14.9.2022) has laid down the modalities for deciding the claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in Orders specifying Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lists. As per the modalities, only those proposals which have been recommended and justified by the concerned State Government / UT Administration and concurred with by Registrar General of India (RGI) and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) are to be considered and legislation amended. All action on the proposals is taken as per these approved modalities. The recommendation of the concerned State Government is pre-requisite to process the case further.

(c) to (e): The Ministry of tribal affairs has received the proposal for inclusion of Valmiki community in the Scheduled Tribes list of Tamil Nadu. As per approved modalities the proposal has been referred to ORGI for further examination and furnishing their comments. The comments of the ORGI are awaited.

The proposals for inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes of a State or Union Territory follow certain processes as per the modalities. This is a continuous process. The proposals are examined by the Office of the RGI and then by the NCST. In case the proposal is not recommended by the RGI, the State Governments are communicated the points raised by the RGI, so that additional information, if any, maybe furnished by the State Government. Many such proposals may therefore remain under examination at different levels.
