

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**STARRED QUESTION NO- \*79**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 12/12/2022

**INCLUSION OF NOMADIC TRIBES IN THE LIST OF STs**

**\*79. SHRI T.R. BAALU:**

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many nomadic tribes living in plains of various States like Narikuravar in Tamil Nadu are not categorized as Scheduled Tribes (STs) despite their educational, social, and economic status being very low than many of the Scheduled Tribes;
- (b) whether any representation has been received by the Union Government demanding the inclusion of such tribal communities in the list of STs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (d) the reasons for not acceding to the demands for inclusion of such nomadic tribal castes in the list of STs?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI ARJUN MUNDA)

**(a) to (d):** A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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**Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) to (d) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. \*79 for answer on 12.12.2022 regarding “Inclusion of Nomadic Tribes in the List of STs”**

**(a) to (d):** Ministry of Tribal Affairs is the nodal ministry for specification of a community as Scheduled Tribes under Article 342 of Constitution of India. The Government of India on 15.6.1999, further amended on 25.6.2002 and 14.09.2022, has approved the modalities for deciding the claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in the Orders specifying lists of Scheduled Tribes. According to these modalities, only those proposals which have been recommended and justified by the State Government/UT Administration concerned, can be processed further. Thereafter, it has to be concurred with by the Registrar General of India (RGI) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) for consideration for amendment of legislation. All actions are taken as per these approved modalities.

In this regard, a Bill in Lok Sabha for including Narikoravan, Kurivikkaran in the list of STs of Tamil Nadu has already been introduced in Lok Sabha on 9.12.2022.

Moreover, the list of Scheduled Tribes is State/UT specific and a community declared as a Scheduled Tribe in a State need not be so in another State/UT. As regards to demand of communities for their inclusion in the list of Scheduled Tribes, such demands/ representations are forwarded to State Government concerned as recommendation of the State Government is pre-requisite.

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