

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.791  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.07.2023**

**INCLUSION OF CASTES**

**791. SHRI SRIDHAR KOTAGIRI:**

**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to include Veerashaiva Lingayat/Linga Baliija caste from States of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu in the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) list, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Tamil Nadu have sent their recommendations in this regard to the Union Government;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government so far in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which the Government is likely to include the Veerashaiva Lingayat/Linga Baliija caste in the OBCs list?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)**

(a) to (d) : Recommendation for inclusion of Veerashaiva Lingayat community in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Telangana has been received from the State Government of Telangana. This has been forwarded to the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) for their recommendations. The recommendations of the NCBC is still awaited. No recommendations have been received from Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu State Governments for inclusion of the Veerashaiva Lingayat/Linga Baliija communities in the Central List of OBCs.

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