

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1295
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.12.2024**

INCLUSION IN THE CENTRAL LIST OF OBCs

1295. SHRI B K PARTHASARATHI:

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

- (a) whether Veershaiva Lingayat/Linga Baliya have been included in the Central List of OBCs from the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if not, the reasons for their non-inclusion in the Central List of OBCs;
- (c) whether the Government has any plans to include them in Central List of OBCs; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI B.L.VERMA)**

(a): No Sir.

(b): As per the findings of the National Commission for Backward Classes(NCBC), the Veershaiva Lingayat of Andhra Pradesh, who are also known as Linga Baliya, are not socially and educationally backward and hence do not deserve inclusion in the list of backward classes. Therefore, the request for inclusion of "Veershaiva Lingayat/Linga Baliya" in the Central List of backward classes for Andhra Pradesh was rejected by NCBC.

(c) & (d): The Parliament may by law include or exclude Castes/Communities from the Central List of socially and educationally backward classes. Inclusion of castes and communities in the Central List of OBCs is an ongoing exercise depending upon receipt of complete proposal including ethnographic report etc. from the concerned State/UT, justifying social and educational backwardness of the respective castes/communities detailing the outcome of the public hearing thereof.
