

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2918
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.03.2025

INCLUSION OF VEERASHAIVA LINGAYATS IN THE CENTRAL OBC LIST

2918. SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR:

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

- (a) whether the Government propose for Inclusion of Veerashaiva Lingayats (Linga Baliya) of Telangana State in the Central OBC list who are socially and educationally most backward;
- (b) whether most of the people of Telangana have any proper education and unable to persuade any studies and also considering their pitiable conditions and their social backwardness, the State Backward Class Commission, Government of AP included Veerashaiva Lingayats in the State BC list in the year 2009 and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether after bifurcation of State, it has adopted existing list of Backward classes and issued GO in the year 2015 including them in BC List and the Government of Telangana has requested the National Commission for Backward Classes for inclusion of Veerashaiva Lingayat along with other communities in the Central OBC list in the year 2016 and 2021 and if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) to (c): As per information provided by State Government of Telangana, owing to social and educational backwardness, Veerashaiva Lingayat community was included in the State list of Backward Classes by the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh vide G.O. order dated 28.02.2009 at Sl. No. 46 under Group-D.

After bifurcation of the State, the existing list of Backward classes was adopted by State Government of Telangana with certain modifications vide G.O. dated 14.8.2014 wherein Veerashaiva Lingayat/Lingabaliya community was listed at Sl. No. 46 under Group-D. Thereafter, Government of Telangana requested National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) vide D.O. letter dated 09.09.2016 to include the said community in the Central list of OBCs.

NCBC has recommended for inclusion of Veerashaiva Lingayat/Lingabaliya community in the Central list of OBCs, vide their advice dated 06.10.2023. After enactment of 102nd and 105th Constitutional Amendment Acts, inclusion of any caste in the Central list of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes is to be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Article 342A of the Constitution of India.
