

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3223**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.03.2025

**INCLUSION OF VALMIKI COMMUNITY IN ST LIST**

3223. SMT. D K ARUNA:

DR. BYREDDY SHABARI:

SHRI G LAKSHMINARAYANA:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposals from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana to include the Valmiki or Boya community in the Scheduled Tribes (ST) list, who are presently categorized under Backward Classes (BC) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the reasons for any delay in the evaluation and approval of the said proposals along with the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether the Government has set any criteria to assess the said proposals and constituted an expert committee to review those and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the Valmiki or Boya community do not have any caste-based profession, lack a continuous income source and is considered among the weaker sections and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the said community has already been granted Scheduled Tribe status in Karnataka and in some parts of Andhra Pradesh, especially in Srikakulam district and if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether, based on the recommendations of Chellappa Committee, Telangana Legislative Assembly has passed unanimous resolution twice to include the community in the ST list and sent the proposal to the Union Government and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken thereon; and
- (g) the expected timeline for a final decision on the inclusion of the said community in the ST list?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

**(a) to (c) & (g):** The Ministry has received proposal for inclusion of Valmiki/Boya in the Scheduled Tribes list from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh and the proposal for inclusion of Valmiki Boyas in the Scheduled Tribes list of Telangana from the State Government of Telangana.

The 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 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. Proposals received from the State Government should be accompanied by an ethnographic report. 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.

**(d):** Valmiki Boya are adept in hunting and collection of honey combs from crevices of overhanging rocks. Majority of them are now agriculturists. Having regard to their low social status, poverty and educational backwardness, the community is considered as a socially and educationally backward.

**(e):** Valmiki community is notified as Scheduled Tribe in the Scheduled Tribe list of Andhra Pradesh at entry 30 as “Valmiki (Scheduled Areas of Vishakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Vijayanagram, East Godavari and West Godavari districts)” and in the Scheduled Tribe list of Karnataka at entry 38 as “Naikda, Nayaka (including Parivara and Talawara), Cholivala Nayaka, Kapadia Nayaka, Mota Nayaka, Nana Nayaka, Naik, Nayak, Beda, Bedar, and Valmiki.”

**(f):** The Telangana State Assembly has passed a resolution for inclusion of Valmiki Boya community in ST list of Telangana. Government of Telangana vide their letter No. 3646/TW.LTR/2018 TW (LTR) Dept., dated 16.11.2021 submitted a proposal to this Ministry.

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