

## **Need to include Boya/Valmiki community in the List of Scheduled Tribes in Telangana**

**SHRIMATI D. K. ARUNA (MAHBUBNAGAR):** I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak about including Boya Valmiki community of Telangana in the list of scheduled tribes. This community is illiterate and poor. They do not have enough jobs for livelihood. In earlier days, they used to indulge in hunting but now they do not have any occupation for their community. Boya Valmiki community is being recognised as Scheduled Tribe in neighboring states like Karnataka and other states. But in Telugu states, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, Boya Valmiki Community is identified as a backward class, which is gross injustice to that community. In the state of Telangana, there are more than 5 lakh people belonging to the Boya Valmiki Community and the majority of them live in my parliamentary constituency Mahboob Nagar. The then government of Telangana constituted the Chellappa Committee to examine the economic and social conditions of Boya Valmiki community. As per the recommendations of the Chellappa Committee, the then Telangana government passed a resolution in the state assembly and sent a proposal to the Union government to consider including Boya Valmiki community in the list of Scheduled Tribes. Therefore, my request to the Minister of Tribal Affairs is, to consider this proposal and allow successors of Valmiki, who wrote Ramayana, to play a vital role in building modern India by including their community in the list of Scheduled Tribes. I further request the Union government to include Boya Valmiki community of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in the list of scheduled tribes. Thank you.