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Title : Need to include 'Medara' community of Karnataka in the list of Scheduled Tribes.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI (DHARWAD): 'Medara' is a community in Northern parts of Karnataka which is socially and economically backward. This 'Medara' is synonymous with the terms 'Meda' and 'Medar' which are already included as Scheduled Tribe through a Central Government Notification. But the term 'Medara' is some how left out from the list of STs which is said to be due to oversight. The Government of Karnataka has recommended to Government of India to include 'Medara' in the ST list to do justice to the people of this community who are deprived of this facility. It is reported that the Ministry of Tribal Affairs had sought the comments from national Commission for SCs/STs but the fact is that even Registrar General of India has also opined that the term 'Medara' is synonymous with Meda which is already notified as ST in Karnataka. National Commission on STs is also reported to have given favourable comments. I, therefore, urge upon the Central Government to include 'Medara' community in the list of Scheduled Tribes and issue notification in this regard.