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Title : Need for central approval to re-include Marathi community of Kerala in the list of STs.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (KASARGOD): Madam, I would like to place before this House some important issues with regard to one ST community in the northern part of my State, especially in Kasargod, Manjeshwar and Hosdurg.

Madam, from 1952 onwards this ST community was included in the ST List. It was true in the case of Karnataka and Kerala States. But in the year 2002 without proper verification and assessment, this poor community was excluded from the ST List. Knowing this fact, the State Governments of Kerala – either LDF or the UDF – and all the political parties have approached the Central Government.

**20.04 hrs** (Shri Inder Singh Namdhari *in the Chair*)

ST community, minority community, even the Kithards, which are more important as far as religious communities are concerned, approached and sent a report to the Central Government requesting it to retain them in the ST List.

As far as the tribe community is concerned, the geographical isolation, educational backwardness, social backwardness and financial backwardness are the prime things. These characteristics are still prevailing as far as ST community is concerned. In the recent time, the Government of Kerala had again sent a detailed report with the suggestions of the Kithards and also the experts but no action has been taken so far. A long time has lost for this ST community but still it is pending before the Government. So, I would request the Government to take necessary steps. As you know, Kasargod and Mangalore have only ten or twelve kilometres distance. So, there is no justification for avoiding them. So, I would request the Government to take necessary steps in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would request the hon. Members not to take more than two minutes' time because it is too late now. I want to request one thing more that you be seated here till all the 'Zero Hour' matters are over. It does not look nice that you speak and go away. यह अच्छा नहीं लगता है।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY): Sir, those hon. Members who speak and go away should not be given chance to speak next time.