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Title: Need to include the Vetar Community in the list of Scheduled Tribes for the State of Kerala.

SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH (MAVELIKKARA): The Vetar Community of Kerala has been living in a very miserable and pitiable life for a very long time. The Government of Kerala had recommended inclusion of Vetar community in the list of Scheduled Tribes so that the benefits of reservation could also be availed of by this community. The people of this community have been agitating for their inclusion in the ST List for a long time. The Vetar community members under the auspices of Girivarga Vetar Maha Sabha had organized Satyagraha in front of Parliament on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2003 and 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 to press for their demand.

They submitted a memorandum to the President and the Prime Minister of India but still the issue is pending. The demand of this community to include them in the ST List is very genuine and their grievances should be redressed.

It is, therefore, requested that the Vetar community may be included in the list of Scheduled Tribes for the State of Kerala.

I would request the Government to bring forward necessary amendments in the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 in order to include the Vetar Community in the Scheduled Tribes List.