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Title: Need to make suitable amendments in the law for issuance ST certificates to all the eligible persons irrespective of his/her place of residence.

SHRI P. LINGAM (TENKASI): In Virudhunagar and Tirunelveli districts that come under my constituency Scheduled Tribe people who come under the category 'Kattu Naicker' live in a socially and economically backward situation. They do not have gainful employment except for sanitation and daily wage work.

Even under these conditions, the children and youth from these deprived sections have studied in schools and have obtained good marks both in SSLC and HSC. In the absence of Caste certificate they are not able to go in for further higher education.

Though this Scheduled Tribe 'Kattu Naicker' category people live in several districts of Tamil Nadu, as a spread out deprived section of the society, only in few districts they are recognized and issued with Caste Certificates. When our Constitution enables us to live in any part of the country and in any district in any of the States, putting people to hardships in the case of Caste Certificate by way of demarcating certain geographical areas and certain districts is violating the spirit of the Constitution.

Hence, I urge upon both the Centre and the State Governments to go in for suitable amendments in the Law to see that common ST Certificates are given to the people who come under their respective categories to help enable the younger generation among them to get education facilities and come up in life.

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