

UNDER RULE 77 OF RULES OF PROCEDURE AND CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE A.P. STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, I INTEND TO MOVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION :

1. The attention of the House is to be drawn to the issue which the Government have noticed that though the Backward Classes constitute a large chunk of the society forming its backbone, they are not adequately benefitted and they have also not attained the desired levels of development yet.
2. For formulating concrete welfare policies and implementing them effectively for the benefit of Backward Classes, accurate statistics relating to the population and their various levels of social, educational and economic development are of prime importance and they are in a way indispensable too.
3. But, the accurate statistics relating to Backward Classes are lacking at present, which became an impediment in the way of affirmative action and other welfare measures aimed at the development of the Backward Classes.
4. The last Caste Census was done in the Country in the year 1931 i.e. under British Rule before India has attained its Independence. By then, the population of India was just around 300 Million (30 Crore). Further, even present day Pakistan and Bangladesh were also part of our Country at

that time. Now, the things have changed drastically. The population of the country has increased more than four times as it is around 1300 Million (130 Crore) now. As a result of non conduct of Caste Census for over 90 years since 1931, the same statistics as being obtained in 1931 Census are being used through projecting them with annual / decennial population growth. But, keeping various related factors in view, relying on projected population figures is not justifiable beyond a point. So, there is every need to have accurate population statistics of the Backward Classes and it brooks no delay.

5. Accurate data on population of Backward Classes facilitates formulation of proper policies and their effective implementation too. The reservations provided and various welfare measures taken up under the policy of affirmative action will benefit the deserving, target the really needy, eliminate the false claimants only in the context of availability of accurate data on their population and their different levels of social, educational and economic development. It also brings in savings in the precious resources of the exchequer.
6. In due consideration of the present scenario, caste census of Backward Classes has to be taken up so as to have contemporaneous (empirical) data to facilitate formulation of

suitable policies and their effective implementation for real benefit of the Backward Classes.

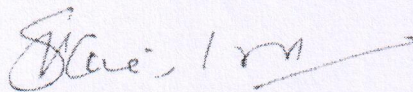
7. The Census operations in our country are being carried out every 10 years and as a part of it, the enumeration of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the Minorities is being done. However, the same is not being done in respect of Backward Classes, who constitute the large chunk of the society. So, enumeration of Backward Classes in the country also as a part of the Census operations is viewed as an ideal tool to assess the social, educational and economic backwardness of the Backward Classes communities, thereby enabling the Government to have a focused approach towards their all round development. It also facilitates implementation of certain constitutional provisions viz., Article 15 (4), Article 16 (4) etc., realizing the import of those constitutional provisions.
8. In this regard, the Government of Andhra Pradesh have decided to move a proposal to pass a resolution in the Andhra Pradesh State Legislative Assembly requesting the Government of India to do a census of the Backward Classes for which a demand has been coming consistently from the intellectuals, organizations and various groups representing the interests and aspirations of the Backward Classes. Such a census will also reflect accurately the social, educational and

economic conditions of the Backward Classes in the country and is of paramount importance for evolving developmental strategies for their overall advancement.

9. Besides the above, empirical data on castes and their progress in different realms is absolutely essential to justify either the policies made by the Government or the benefits provided to the Backward Classes vis-a-vis others, and for analytical examination of the ratio between the Backward Classes and others in Education, Employment and other spheres.
10. It will facilitate improvement / development of the Backward Classes socially, educationally and economically on par with the developed communities / forward communities of the society. Further, it will also address a long pending demand from various forums, organizations, intellectuals and thinkers for the enumeration of the Backward Classes.
11. In this regard, a resolution has been approved by the Council of Ministers which met on 28.10.2021 and authorized the Hon'ble Minister for Backward Classes Welfare to place a resolution in the Andhra Pradesh State Legislative Assembly for requesting the Government of India to take up caste based census of Backward Classes, while conducting the General Census of 2021.

12. With a view to uplift all the sections of the society in general and poorer sections among them in particular so as to usher in just and egalitarian society as enshrined in the preamble of the Constitution of India, it is necessary to maintain the accurate population statistics of all the Backward Classes / Communities for taking up affirmative action and other various welfare measures aimed at their welfare and development and also for targeting the most needy and deprived among them. Hence, with a view to ensure effective implementation of the provisions of clause (4) & clause (5) of Article 15, clause (4) of Article 16 and also the provisions of clause (6) of Article 243D and clause (6) of Article 243T in their letter and spirit for the benefit of Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs) of citizens, the 15th Andhra Pradesh State Legislative Assembly hereby urges the Government of India that, the caste wise census of the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes of citizens also be conducted along with that of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Minorities, while holding the General Census for 2021.

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