

Concern over issue of fake caste certificates

SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI (Odisha): This serious problem has far-reaching implications, particularly for the Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), and Other Backward Classes (OBC) communities who are entitled to certain reservation benefits to uplift their socio-economic status in accordance with the provision of the Constitution of India.

The use of fraudulent caste certificates undermines the purpose of these reservations, depriving genuine beneficiaries of their rightful opportunities in higher education, employment, promotion and elective posts. The spurious Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates who falsely claim these benefits by virtue of those fake caste certificates not only snatch away the reservation benefit meant for undeveloped, depressed, and suppressed Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities but also perpetuate social injustice and inequality; as a result of which, the genuine Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates are deprived from their constitutional rights.

The Father of the Constitution of India, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, had made provisions of reservation in education, appointment, promotion and in political representation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with a view to bringing the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities in the mainstream of the nation. Immediate action is necessary to address this issue.

Sir, I urge the Government of India to conduct an investigation and verification process to identify and cancel the fake caste certificates. This step will help to protect the fundamental rights of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities and promote a fair and just society. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA): Thank you, Niranjanji. You raised a very important issue, because it has become a usual phenomenon to produce fake caste certificates. I think the Government will take notice of it and will take corrective measures.

The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member, Shri Niranjan Bishi: Dr. Sasmit Patra (Odisha), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Shri Muzibulla Khan (Odisha), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri Sujeet Kumar (Odisha), Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala), Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Shrimati Sulata Deo (Odisha) and Shri Sandosh Kumar P (Kerala).