

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

For restoring peace and harmony in the areas of the State of Tripura where disturbed conditions prevailed, a Memorandum of Settlement was signed by the Government of India with Tripura National Volunteers on 12-8-1988. The said Memorandum provides for a greater share of tribals in the governance of the State. The said Memorandum envisages amendment of the Constitution to provide that notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution, the number of seats in the Legislative Assembly of the State of Tripura reserved for Scheduled Tribes shall be, such number of seats as bears to the total number of seats, a proportion not less than the number, as on the date of coming into force of the Constitutional amendment, of members belonging to the Scheduled Tribes in the existing Assembly bears to the total number of seats in the existing Assembly. It also provides that the amendments shall not affect any representation in the existing Assembly of the State of Tripura until its dissolution.

2. In order to implement the said Memorandum, action is to be taken to determine the seats which are to be reserved for Scheduled Tribes in the State of Tripura. Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assembly of any State is governed by the provisions of article 332 of the Constitution. Having regard to the special circumstances obtaining in the State of Tripura, it is proposed to further amend article 332 of the Constitution for making a temporary provision for the determination of the number of seats reserved for Scheduled Tribes until the re-adjustment of seats on the basis of the first census after the year 2000 under article 170 of the Constitution for the State of Tripura.

3. The Bill seeks to achieve the aforesaid objects.

NEW DELHI;

S. B. CHAVAN.

The 11th December, 1991.