

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು
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Bill on extension of SC, ST quota in LS, Assemblies introduced

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It also proposes scrapping of nomination of Anglo-Indians

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A Bill seeking to extend by 10 years reservation to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Lok Sabha and the Assemblies and remove the provision of nominating two members of the Anglo-Indian community to the Lok Sabha was introduced in the House on Monday.

The reservation given to SCs, STs and the Anglo-Indian community for the past 70 years is to end on January 25, 2020.

Trinamool opposes

Trinamool Congress MP Saugata Roy opposed the introduction of the Constitution (126th) Amendment Bill, saying the Anglo-Indian community was being deprived of representation.

Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said that while the merits of the Bill could be gone into during the debate, the extension of reservation to the SC and ST communities was for representation, while the Anglo-Indian community was nominated.

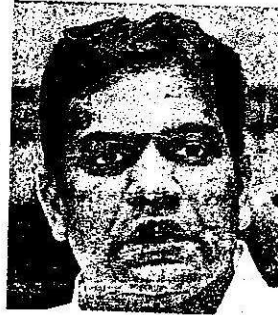
No factual basis, says MP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The government has brought in legislation to discontinue the nomination of Anglo-Indian community without undertaking a factual study of its current economic and social status, Congress MP Hibi Eden said.

"This shows the approach of the government towards the minority communities. This Bill is arbitrary as it has no factual basis. The assumption that the Anglo-Indians are a well-to-do community is not based on any detailed study," Mr. Eden said. He represents Ernakulam, which has a sizeable population of Anglo-Indians.

He said that in 2013, a



Hibi Eden

joint parliamentary team undertook a fact-finding mission, and the report was contrary to the government's claims.

"The report says that there has been no improvement in economic and social sectors of this community and reservation has to be continued," Mr. Eden added.

"According to the 2011 census, there are 296 members of the Anglo Indian community in the entire country. However, I would still maintain that we have

not closed our minds to re-visiting the issue," he said.

The Bill was then cleared for introduction by voice vote to be taken up for consideration and passing later.