



**KARNATAKA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SEVENTH SESSION**

**THE KARNATAKA SCHEDULED CASTES (SUB-CLASSIFICATION) BILL, 2025
(LA Bill No. 89 of 2025)
(As passed by the Karnataka Legislative Assembly)**

A Bill to provide for sub-classification among the Scheduled Castes in the State of Karnataka to ensure their unified and uniform progress in education and employment.

Whereas, in the State of Karnataka there are one hundred and one (101) Scheduled Castes listed under the Scheduled Castes category and the State Government extends a 17% reservation in Public sector employment and Educational Institutions to these communities. In accordance with Article 46 of the Directive Principles of State Policy (Part IV) of the Constitution of India, the State is committed to protecting the interests of Scheduled Castes and to provide Social Justice and prevention of exploitation, and fostering their overall development. Additionally, as enshrined in Article 38(2) of the Directive Principles, the State endeavours to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities, and opportunities, not only among individuals but also among groups residing in different regions and engaged in diverse vocations.

And whereas, the Constitutional mandate upholds social justice and equality of opportunity, as reflected in the Preamble and Fundamental Rights, particularly the Right to Equality (Articles 14 to 16), in conjunction with Articles 38, 39, 41, and 46. These provisions emphasize protective discrimination to minimize inequalities and uplift socially and educationally backward communities, including Scheduled Castes. To achieve these constitutional goals and to ensure collective progress, the Government of Karnataka is committed to the fair and equitable distribution of reservation benefits among all Scheduled Castes, thereby ensuring their equal and fair access to opportunities in both education and public employment;

And whereas, in this context, the Hon'ble Supreme Court consisting of seven Judges has pronounced its judgment in W.P. Civil Appeal No.2317 of 2011 combined with other petitions including W.P.(C) No.562 of 2022, Dated. 01.08.2024 regarding Sub Classification within the Scheduled Castes. Out of seven Judges bench, six Judges opined that the validity of sub-classification within Scheduled Castes has been held to be constitutionally permissible. In pursuant to the above Judgement, the Government of Karnataka constituted a One-Man Commission with retired Justice Sri H.N. Naga Mohan Das, to suggest specific recommendations on sub-classification of Scheduled Castes among the various sub-groups of Scheduled Castes in the State of Karnataka vide GO. SWD/SLP/8-2024 (P-1), dated:12.11.2024 and 03.12.2024 and the said Commission submitted its report to the Government on 04.08.2025. The Government have approved the recommendations of said commission with modification to implement the sub-classification among the Scheduled Castes for ensuring a fair and equitable distribution of reservation benefits;

And whereas, the following are the categorisation of one hundred and one (101) Scheduled Castes and their proposed percentage of reservation:

Name of the Category	Proposed share in percentage
Category –A (16 Castes)	6%
Category –B (19 Castes)	6%
Category –C (63 Castes)	5%
Total (98 Castes)	17%

And whereas the three non-categorised Scheduled castes, namely:-

SL.NO	Caste Code	Name of the Caste
1	01	Adi Andhra
2	02	Adi Dravida
3	03	Adi Karnataka

and not mentioned in the categories of A and B but listed under the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and amended from time to time shall also be eligible to opt for reservation under Category–A or Category–B based on caste certificate as specified in the Government Circular No. SWD 8 SLP 2024(P-5) dated 08.10.2025 and 09.10.2025.

Be it enacted by the Karnataka State Legislature in the seventy sixth year of the Republic of India as follows:-

1. Short title and Commencement.- (1) This Act may be called the Karnataka Scheduled Castes (Sub-Classification) Act, 2025.

(2) All the provision of this Act shall deemed to have come into force with effect from 25th day of August 2025 except the provisos in section 3 under the heading Category-C shall come into force at once.

2. Definitions.- (1) In this Act unless the context otherwise requires,-

- (a) "Appointment" means, appointment through direct recruitment.
- (b) "Backlog vacancies" means and includes unfilled vacancies which were unfilled and carried forward from previous recruitment
- (c) "Educational Institutions" means,-
 - (i) Any school, college or other educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of the State funds or University established by law; or
 - (ii) any institute or training centre recognised or approved by the Government:

with the object of preparing, training or guiding its students for any certificate, decree or diploma or other academic distinctions granted or conferred by any University or authority established or approved in this behalf by the Government ;

- (d) "Government" means the State Government of Karnataka;
- (e) "Prescribed" means prescribed by the rules made under this Act;
- (f) "Public Service" means a civil service in any office or establishment of,-
 - (i) the Government;
 - (ii) a local authority,-
 - (a) rural Local Authorities established under the Karnataka Grama Swaraj and Panchayat Raj Act, 1993;

- (b) urban Local Authorities established under the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, the Karnataka Municipal Corporations Act, 1976 and the Greater Bengaluru Governance Act, 2024;
- (iii) a corporation or under taking wholly owned or controlled by the Government;
- (iv) a corporate statutory body established by the State Government under any law for the time being in-force;
- (v) an educational institutions;
- (vi) a Government company established by the State Government under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013(Central Act 18 of 2013);
- (vii) any other body or Authority established by the State Government under any law for the time being in force;
- (viii) a Co-operative society registered or deemed to have been registered under the Karnataka Co-operative Societies Act, 1959 (Karnataka Act 11 of 1959); and
- (g) “Scheduled Castes” shall have the same meaning assigned to it in clause (24) of Article 366 of the Constitution of India read with the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 made under Article 341 of the Constitution of India;

(2) All other words and expressions used but not defined in this Act shall have the same meaning as assigned to them in the Karnataka General Clauses Act, 1899 (Karnataka Act 03 of 1899) or other relevant Act for the time being in force.

3. Sub-classification.- In order to ensure, social justice and equality of opportunity and to ensure fair, just, reasonable and equitable enjoyment of benefits of the reservation by all the Scheduled Castes with respect to the State of Karnataka, the State Government have sub-classified the one hundred and one (101) Scheduled caste into three categories which are identified based on inter-se, backwardness, social cohesion and population. The percentage of reservation for the three categories shall be at the rate prescribed in clauses (i),(ii) and (iii) as mentioned below of this section:

Provided that the three non-categorised Scheduled castes, namely:-

SL.NO	Caste Code	Name of the Caste
1	01	Adi Andhra
2	02	Adi Dravida
3	03	Adi Karnataka

and not mentioned in the categories of A and B but listed under the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and amended from time to time shall also be eligible to opt for reservation under Category-A or Category-B based on caste certificate as specified in the Government Circular No. SWD 8 SLP 2024(P-5) dated 08.10.2025 and 09.10.2025.

Provided further that, the reservation as specified under this section to the three categories shall be subject to the availability of eligible candidates.

(i) Six percent of the posts or seats so reserved under Sub-classification for the Scheduled Castes shall be reserved to the persons belonging to the following Scheduled Castes which shall be referred to as Scheduled Castes (Category-A) namely:-

CATEGORY-A

SL.NO	Caste Code	Name of the Caste	Percentage of reservation allotted to category-A
1	22	Bhambi,Bhambhi,Asadaru,Asodi, Chamadia,Chamar,Chambhar,Chamgar, Haralayya,Harali,Khalpa,Machigor,Mochigar Madar,Madig,Mochi,Muchi,TeleguMochi,Ka mati Mochi,Ranigar, Rohidas,Rohit, Samgar	6%
2	28	Chandala	
3	32	Dhor,Kakkayya,Kankayya	
4	40	Halsar,Haslar,Hulasvar,Halasvar	
5	42	Hasla	
6	48	Kadaiyan	
7	50	Kepmaris	
8	51	Kolupulvandlu	
9	56	Kudumban	
10	61	Madiga	
11	72	Mang,Matang,Minimadig	
12	76	Mavilan	
13	88	Panchama	
14	89	Panniandi	
15	93	Samagara	
16	94	Samban	

(ii) Six percent of the posts or seats so reserved under the Sub-categorisation for the Scheduled Castes shall be reserved to the persons belonging to the following Scheduled Castes which shall be referred to as Scheduled Castes (Category-B) namely:-

CATEGORY-B

SL.NO	Caste Code	Name of the Caste	Percentage of reservation allotted to category-B
1	7	Anamuk	6%
2	8	Aray Mala	
3	10	Arwa Mala	
4	15	Balagai	
5	27	Chalavadi,Chalvadi,Channayya	
6	86	Pallan	
7	44	Holaya,Holer,Holeya	
8	63	Mahyavanshi,Dhed,Vankar, MaruVankar	
9	65	Mala	
10	67	Mala Hannai	
11	68	Mala Jangam	
12	69	Mala Masti	
13	70	Mala Sale, Netkani	
14	62	Mahar,Taral,DheguMegu	
15	78	Moger	
16	80	Mundala	
17	90	Paraiyan, Paraya	
18	92	Raneyar	
19	101	Valluvan	

(iii) Five percent of the posts or seats so reserved under the Sub-Categorisation for the Scheduled Castes shall be reserved to the persons belonging to the following Scheduled Castes which shall be referred to as Scheduled Castes (Category-C) namely:-

CATEGORY-C

SL.NO	Caste Code	Name of the Caste	Percentage of reservation allotted to category-C
1.	4	Adiya (in Coorg district)	
2.	5	Ager	
3.	6	Ajila	
4.	9	Arunthathiyar	
5.	11	Baira	
6.	12	Bakad	
7.	14	Bakuda	
8.	16	Bandi	
9.	13	Bant (in Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwar and North Kanara districts)	

10.	17	Banjara, Lambani, Lambada, Lambadi, Lamani, Sugali, Sukali	5%
11.	18	Bathada	
12.	19	BudgaJangam,BedaJangam,	
13.	20	Bellara	
14.	21	Bhangi, Mehtar, Olgana, Rukhi, Malkana Halalkhor, Lalbegi, Balmiki, Korar, Zadmalli	
15.	23	Bhovi,Od,Odde,Vaddar,Waddar,Voddar,Woddar, Bovi (Non-Besta),Kalluvaddar,Mannuvaddar	
16.	24	Bindla	
17.	25	Byagara	
18.	26	Chakkiliyan	
19.	29	ChennaDasar ,HolayaDasar	
20.	30	Dakkal ,Dokkalwar	
21.	31	Dakkaliga	
22.	33	Dom, Dombara ,Paidi ,Pano	
23.	34	Ellamalwar,Yellammalawandlu	
24.	35	Ganti Chores	
25.	36	Garoda,Garo	
26.	37	Godda	
27.	38	Gosangi	
28.	39	Halleer	
29.	41	Handi Jogis	
30.	43	Holar,Valhar	
31.	45	Holeya Dasari	
32.	46	Jaggali	
33.	47	Jambuvulu	
34.	49	Kalladi	
35.	52	Koosa	
36.	53	Koracha,Korachar	
37.	54	Korama,Korava,Koravar	
38.	55	Kotegar, Metri	
39.	57	Kuravan	
40.	58	Lingader	
41.	59	Machala	
42.	60	Madari	
43.	64	Maila	
44.	66	Mala Dasari	
45.	71	Mala Sanyasi	
46.	73	Mang Garudi,MangGarodi	
47.	74	Manne	
48.	75	Masthi	
49.	77	Meghval, Menghvar	
50.	79	Mukri	
51.	81	Nadia,Hadi	
52.	82	Nalkadaya	
53.	83	Nalakeyava	

54.	84	Nayadi	
55.	85	Pale	
56.	87	Pambada	
57.	91	Paravan	
58.	95	Sapari	
59.	96	Sillekyathas	
60.	97	Sindhollu, Chindollu	
61.	98	Sudugadu Siddha	
62.	99	Thoti	
63.	100	Tirgar, Tirbanda	

Provided that, in case of Category-C list of the Scheduled Castes, for the 59 castes other than those mentioned at Sl. No 10, 15, 36 and 37 of the table above (i.e Caste Code 17, 23, 53 and 54), at least one out of every five posts or seats shall be reserved within Category-C.

Provided further that, if no eligible candidate is available under these 59 castes in Category-C, such posts or seats shall be filled by the above said four castes (i.e Sl. No 10, 15, 36 and 37).

4. Backlog Vacancies.- The percentage of reservation provided in section 3 shall be applicable for filling up of backlog vacancies pertaining to public appointments.

5. Reservations not to be affected.- Nothing contained in this Act, shall apply to any appointment to a post or service in any Department of the Central Government or any Corporation or undertaking owned or controlled by it or to any educational institutions belonging to or under the control of the Central Government or their entity.

6. Protection of action taken in good faith.- No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall laid against any authority or persons or anything done or perforated to have been in good faith in pursuance of the provisions of this Act or rules made thereunder.

7. Roster points.- (1) Fixation or adjustment of roster points in respect of Scheduled Castes in both vertical and horizontal reservation for the purpose of appointments in State Civil services and other establishments of the Local Authority or Corporation or other body.

(2) Any other matter as may be prescribed.

(3) Every order made under this section shall as soon as may, after it is made, be laid before each House of the State Legislature.

8. Savings.- (1) Save as otherwise provided in this Act or any other law for the time being in force the Government orders in relation to the reservation of Scheduled Castes in the public service or educational institutions shall be continued.

(2) Government order No.SWD 8 SLP 2024 dated 25.08.2025 and circular No.SWD 8 SLP 2024(P-5)dated 08.10.2025 and 09.10.2025 in relation to reservation and sub-classification of Scheduled Castes issued before the date of commencement of this Act and in force on the date of commencement of this Act, to the extent they are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, shall continue to be in force and effective as if they are made or issued under the corresponding provisions of this Act unless and until superseded by anything done or any action taken or any order, circular made under this Act.

9. Modification in the reservation percentage of sub-classification.- On receipt of new data/information by the Government it shall refer to the Karnataka State Commission for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes to analyse the data and recommend the necessary modification if required to the members of the Scheduled Castes.

10. Power to make rules.- (1) The State Government may, after previous publication by notification, make rules to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing powers, such rules may provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:-

- (a) Fixation or adjustment of roster points in respect of Scheduled Castes for the purposes of public service;
- (b) Procedure to be followed in case of non-availability of eligible persons for compliance with section 4; and
- (c) Any other matter which has to be or may be prescribed.

(3) Every rule or notification made under this Act shall be laid as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of the State Legislature while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions and if before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or notification or both Houses agree that the rule or notification should not be made, the rule or notification shall, from the date on which the modification or annulment is notified have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without, prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule or notification.

11. Power to remove difficulties.- (1) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Government may by order published in the Official Gazette make provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as appear to it be necessary or expedient for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no such order shall be made after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall as soon as may, after it is made, be laid before each House of State Legislature.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

(As appended to at the time of introduction)

The Government of Karnataka constituted a One-Man Commission with retired Justice Sri H.N. Naga Mohan Das, to suggest specific recommendations on sub-classification of Scheduled Castes among the various sub-groups of Scheduled Castes in the State of Karnataka vide GO. SWD/SLP/8-2024 (P-1), dated:12.11.2024 and 03.12.2024 and the said Commission submitted its report to the Government on 04.08.2025. The Government have approved the recommendations of said commission with modification to implement the sub-classification among the Scheduled Castes for ensuring a fair and equitable distribution of reservation benefits and issued Government Order No. SWD 08 SLP 2024, dated: 25.08.2025 and Circular No. No. SWD 08 SLP 2024 (P-5), dated: 08.10.2025 and sub-categorised 101 Scheduled Castes with share of 17% of reservation as below,-

Name of the Category	Proposed share in percentage
Category -A (16 Castes)	6%
Category -B (19 Castes)	6%
Category -C (63 Castes)	5%
Total (98 Castes)	17%

The three non-categorised Scheduled castes, namely:-

SL.NO	Caste Code	Name of the Caste
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and not mentioned in the categories of A and B but listed under the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and amended from time to time shall also be eligible to opt for reservation under Category-A or Category-B based on caste certificate as specified in the Government Circular No. SWD 8 SLP 2024(P-5) dated 08.10.2025 and 09.10.2025.

Therefore the State Government decided to give legality to the said Government Orders and circulars and sub-classification of the Scheduled Castes.

Hence, the Bill.

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

There is no extra expenditure involved in the legislative measure at this stage.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause :10	Empowers the State Government to make rules to carry out the purposes of the Act.
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The proposed delegation of legislative power is normal in character.

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