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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE : 09/01/2020

# Maharashtra Assembly seeks caste census

Unanimously passes resolution urging  
Centre to hold nationwide caste census

9th 1/11

MRITYUNJAY BOSE  
MUMBAI, DHNS

**T**he Maharashtra Legislative Assembly on Wednesday unanimously passed a resolution urging the central government for a caste-based census to ascertain the population of OBCs across India.

The resolution was passed during the one-day special session of the Maharashtra legislature convened to ratify the Constitution (One hundred and twenty-sixth Amendment) Bill, 2019, to extend the reservation quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by another 10 years.

This was passed by the Parliament on December 11 last year and states need to ratify it.

After the ratification, Speaker Nana Patole moved a resolution seeking caste-based census across the country.

"The new census would be done in 2021. We need detailed information and data on OBC population so that benefits can be passed on to them... Several delegations have met me seek caste-based census," said Patole.

However, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Anil Parab felt that it can be finalised in the Business Advisory Committee and taken up during the ensuing Budget Session.

Leader of Opposition Devendra Fad-

navis of the BJP said that his party would support the move whenever it is taken up. Patole, however, felt that it would be late waiting for the Budget Session.

Food and Civil Supplies Minister Chhagan Bhujbal said that it was pending for long and must be taken up. Thereafter, the resolution was unanimously passed by a voice vote.

## Uddhav aide demands farmers' commission

A top aide and advisor to Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray has suggested the Maha Vikas Aghadi government to create Maharashtra Farmers' Rights Commission to address agrarian issues and put an end to farmer suicides, reports DHNS from Mumbai.

The suggestion has come from veteran farm activist Kishore Tiwari, the founder of Vidarbha Jan Andolan Samiti.

Tiwari, who was once close to BJP leaders Nitin Gadkari and Devendra Fadnavis, joined the Shiv Sena ahead of Vidhan Sabha polls, and currently advises Thackeray, on agrarian issues.

"In Maharashtra last month, 300 farmers suicides were reported," Tiwari said.