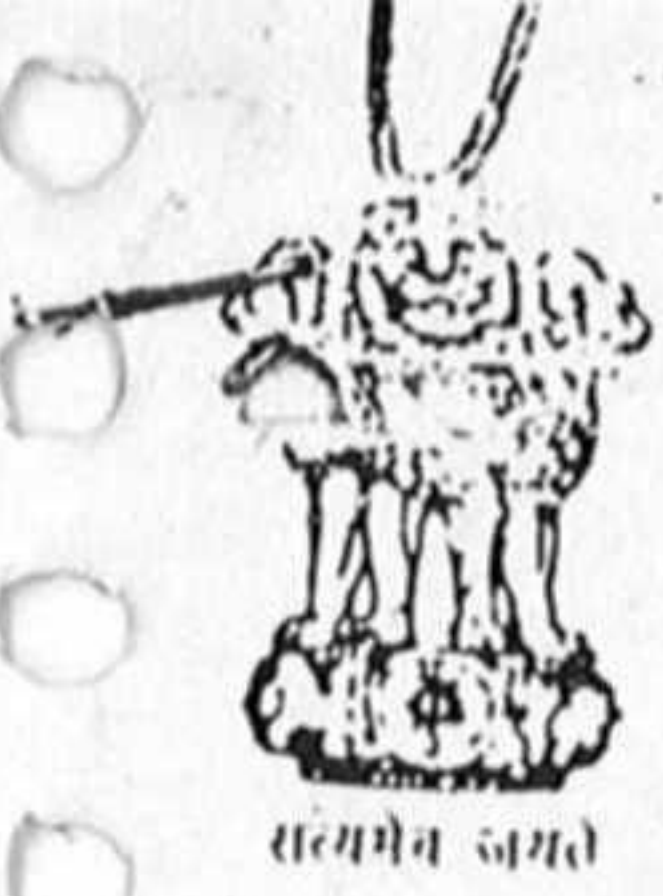




पी. एस. कृष्णन्
P. S. KRISHNAN
TEL 6183190

सदस्य-सचिव
राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग

भारत सरकार
त्रिकूट-१, भीकाजी कामा प्लेस, नई दिल्ली - ११००६६

Member - Secretary
National Commission for Backward Classes
Government of India
Trikoot - 1, Bhikaiji Cama Place, New Delhi - 110 066

NCBC Advice No. Pondicherry 50/99

20.04.1999

Dear Shri Manavalan,

I am sending herewith the Advice of the National Commission for Backward Classes under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act for the Inclusion of "Yerukula" by correction of spelling at entry no.258 in the Central List of Backward Classes for Pondicherry, duly authenticated, for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the NCBC Act.

Yours sincerely

(Signature)

(P.S.KRISHNAN)

o/c

Encl: As stated.

Shri D.K. Manavalan
Secretary to Govt. of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Shastri Bhavan
NEW DELHI

(Signature)
20/4/99

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES**Pondicherry Bench****Findings**

Case: Request for inclusion of "Yerukula" caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for Pondicherry.

PER SHRI SAHU AKSHAYA BHAI, MEMBER**I. Request**

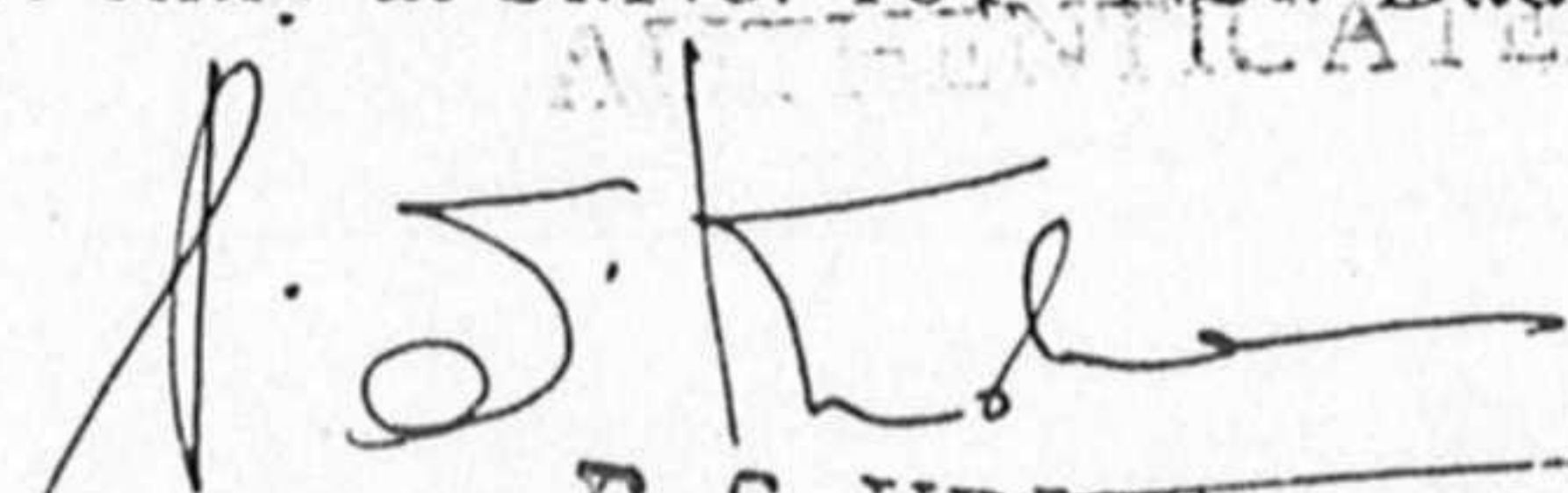
This case arises from the Request received in this Commission from Shri Vubalanka Ramudu, Door No.4-492, High School Road, Yanam-533 464, Pondicherry for Inclusion of "Yerukula" caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for Pondicherry.

II. Public Hearing

2. A two-Member Bench of the NCBC consisting of Hon'ble Members Shri Sahu Akshay Bhai and Shri U.P. Singh held a Public Hearing in respect of this request at Pondicherry on 27th and 28th, August 1998. At the Public Hearing, the U.T. Government was represented by Shri Felix Sequria, Welfare Secretary, Shri V. Swaminathan, Research Officer, Social Welfare Deptt. And other Officials. No member or representative of the caste/community "Yerukula" appeared before the Bench during the Public Hearing, inspite of the wide publicity given through media and separate communication sent to the applicant by the office of the NCBC.

III. Facts

3. The U.T. of Pondicherry had no list of Backward Classes till after the Supreme Court Judgement in the Mandal case, delivered on 16th November, 1992. For this reason, the Expert Committee on Backward Classes could not, on the basis of the principle of commonality, recommend a Central List of Backward Classes for the U.T. of Pondicherry as it could do for 14 other States, which already had their respective lists of Backward Classes, and therefore, the Central Government also could not issue a Central List of Backward Classes for the U.T. of Pondicherry in 1993. The Government of U.T. of Pondicherry issued its list of Backward Classes by its Notification No. G.O. MS.No.2094-Wel(SW)-II dated 6-7-1994 (pending finalisation of the Backward Classes List). The List issued by the Government of U.T. of Pondicherry is a mechanical repetition in toto of the Mandal Commission's List. All the entries in the Mandal List, except entry at Sl.No. 161 "New Buddhists, Nov Buddhists" appears in the


P. S. KRISHNAN
 Member Secretary
 National Commission

Backward Classes List of U.T. of Pondicherry. Thereafter, the Central Government vide Ministry of Welfare's Resolution No.120119/94-BCC dated 19-10-1994 issued a Common (Central) List of Backward Classes for the U.T. of Pondicherry purportedly on the basis of the principle of commonality between the Mandal List and the State List, but which in fact is seen to be a repetition in toto of the U.T. List of Pondicherry, and thus is in effect a repetition of the Mandal List except for New Buddhists (it should really be Neo-Buddhists or Nav-Bauddha, who had been included in the list of SCs in the period between the Mandal Report and the drawing up of BC Lists).

4. The caste/community under consideration appears in the Central List of Backward Classes for Pondicherry at Sl.No.258 as "Yorukula".
5. "Yerukula" is included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu at Sl.No.170. It is also found in the Central List of Backward Classes for Orissa at Sl.No.175. The community is also included in the list of STs for Andhra Pradesh at Sl.No.33 with the correct spelling (as "Yerukulas") but with an inappropriate and unnecessary addition of the English plural suffix "s" as also done in the case of a number of other communities in the Lists of Andhra Pradesh and also in some other instances. Further, this community known as Kaikadi is included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Gujarat at Sl.NO.29 and in the List of Scheduled Castes for Maharashtra at Sl.No.28, and with the local name of "Koracha" in the SC List for Karnataka at entry Nos.53. The fact that the names Koracha and Yerukula are of the same community is brought out by Thurston and Rangachari (Castes and Tribes of Southern India, Asian Educational Services, New Delhi, 1993, first published 1909) as well as by other ethnographic accounts. The identify of Kaikadi with Yerukula has also been noted in ethnographic accounts.
6. The relevant entries in the State, Mandal and Central Lists of Backward Classes for the U.T. of Pondicherry are as follows:-

State List

"259. Yorukula"

Mandal List

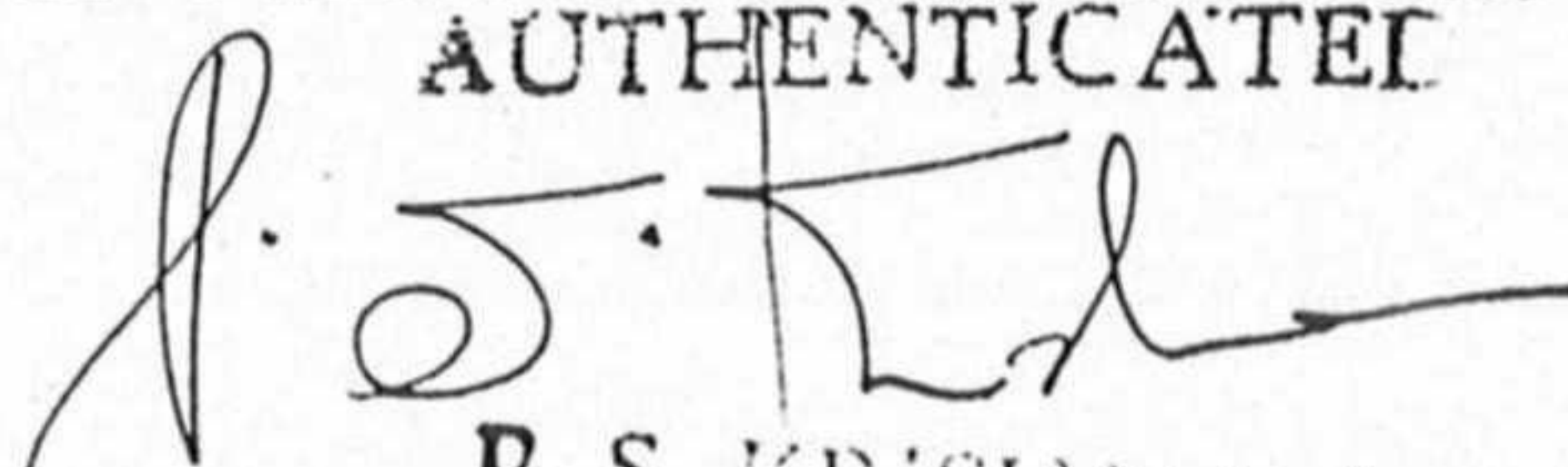
"259. Yorukula"

Central List

"258. Yorukula"

"Yorukula" in the above entries is apparently a spelling error for "Yerukula". No caste/community is mentioned in the ethnographic accounts with the spelling "Yorukula". But, ethnographic accounts have noted this community by its correct name as "Yerukula" as well as

AUTHENTICATED



P. S. KRISHNA
Member
National Commission
for Backward Classes

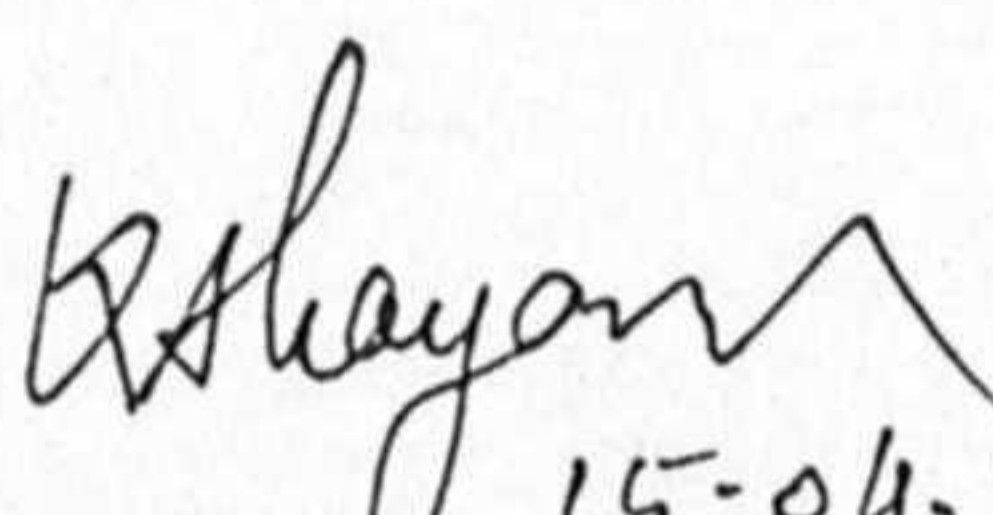
by other names by which it is known in different parts of South India and adjoining regions, namely, Koracha, Kaikadi etc. This community was once classified as a criminal community under the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924 and after the abolition of this Act is known as ex-criminal community or Vimukta Jati.

7. During the Public Hearing the State Government stated that "Yerukula" caste/community is found in the U.T. of Pondicherry and are socially backward, and there is no doubt about the existence of this community in the Union Territory limits since its existence has been noted by the State level Committee for Backward Classes. The absence of the representatives of the caste/community during the Public Hearing may be attributable to the fact that Yanam which is part of Pondicherry Union Territory but is an enclave within the Telugu region of Andhra Pradesh, a few hundred kilometres away from Pondicherry town, the capital of the Union Territory, where the Public Hearing was held.
8. The State level Committee for Backward Classes (First Report, dated 11th September 1995) has recommended this caste/community for inclusion in the U.T. List of Backward Classes with the correct spelling as "Yerukula".
9. People of India, Pondicherry, Vol.XXXVI General Editor K.S. Singh, Anthropological Survey of India, Affiliated East-West Press Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi, and Report of the Tamil Nadu Second Backward Classes Commission, 1985, have attested to the correct spelling of this caste/community as "Yerukula".

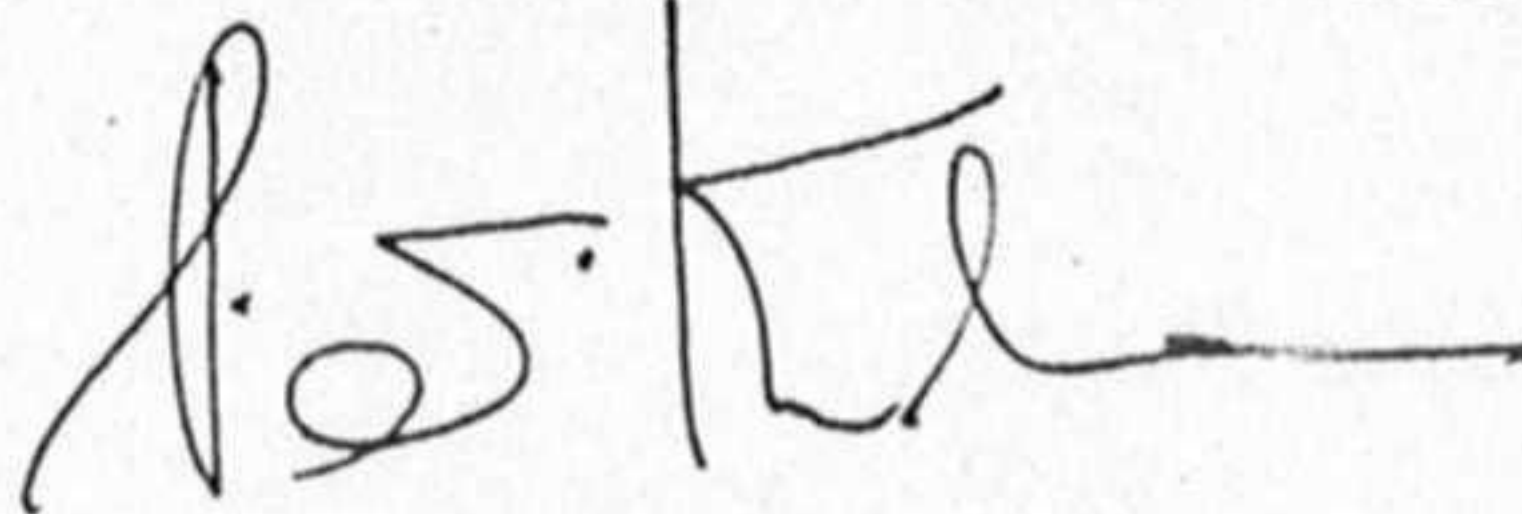
IV. Findings

10. From the above factual material it is the Finding of the Bench that the caste community "Yerukula" already appears in the Central List of Backward Classes at Sl.No.258 with a spelling error as "Yorukula". The spelling error had its origin in the Mandal List and the same error has been repeated in the State List, which is a mechanical repetition of the Mandal List and was mechanically carried over to the Central List also, which was prepared by inclusion of entries "common" to both Mandal and State Lists. Therefore, "Yerukula" should be included in the Central List of Backward Classes by correction of spelling in the Central List of Backward Classes for Pondicherry at entry No.258, as under:-

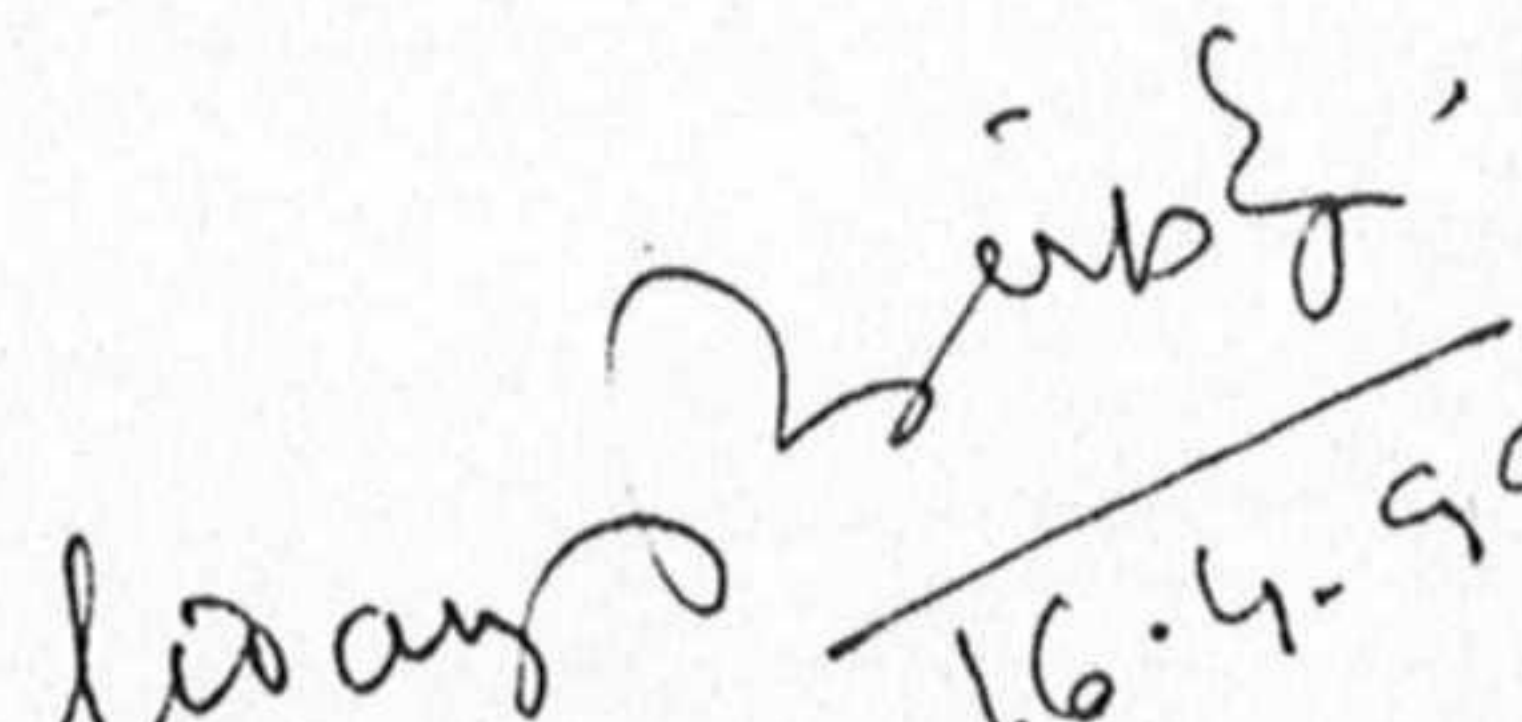
"258. Yerukula"


15-04-99
(Sahu Akshay Bhai)

AUTHENTICATED



P. S. KRISHNAN
Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes


16-4-99
(U.P. Singh)

V. Advice of the Commission

12. The Commission considered and agreed in full with the above Findings of the Pondicherry Bench and decided to tender the following Advice to the Central Government under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993 for action by the Central Govt. under Section 9(2) of the Act:-
- "Yerukula" be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Pondicherry by correction of spelling at entry No.258, as follows:

"258. Yerukula"

On account of the unfortunate demise of one of the Members Shri Navtej Puadhi on 16-8-1998, this unanimous Advice of the Commission does not bear the signature of that Member. The validity of the Advice, notwithstanding the vacancy caused by the demise of the aforesaid Member, is protected by Section 7 of the NCBC Act, 1993.

Kshayan
15.04.99

Navtej Puadhi
16.4.99

V. S. Krishnan
16.4.99

P. S. Krishnan
19.4.99

AUTHENTICATED

P. S. Krishnan

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Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes