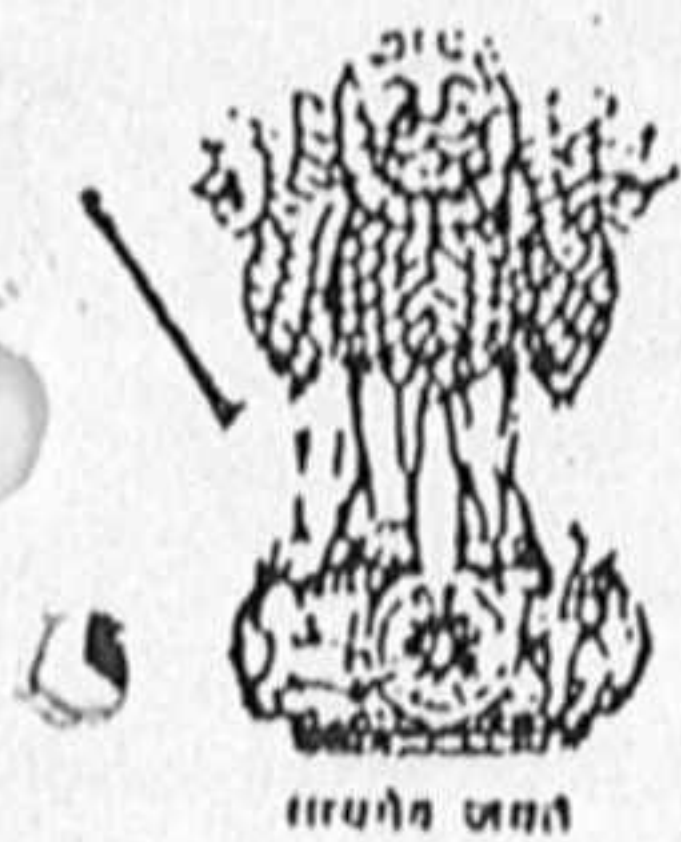




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FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
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NEW DELHI - 110 066

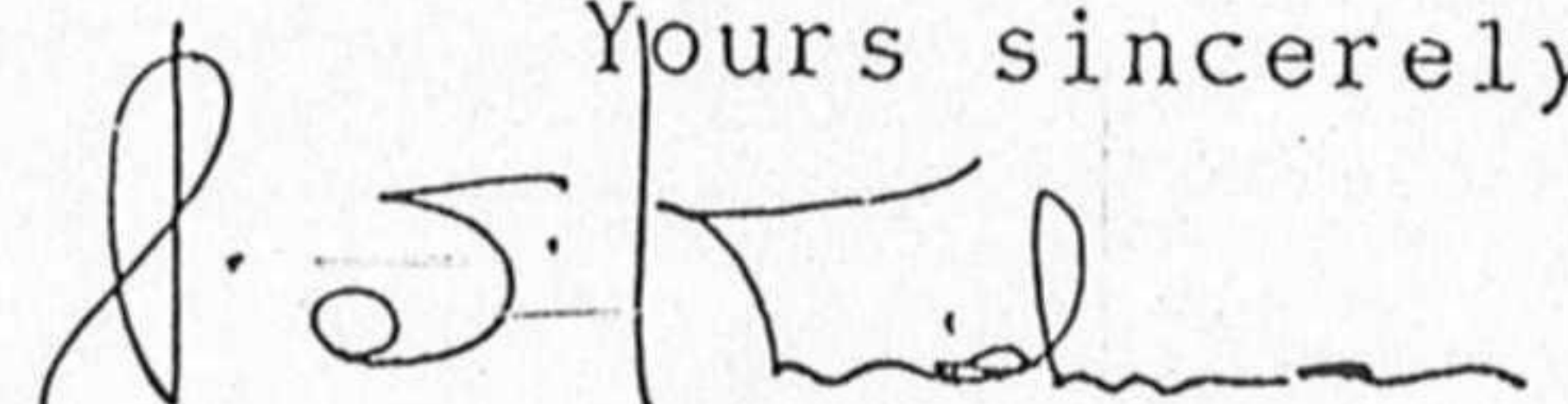
DO NCBC Advice No. 86 Tamil Nadu/98

28. 09. 1998

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 Inclusion of 'Velar' as a synonym of 'Kulala' in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu, duly authenticated, for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the Act.

Yours sincerely


(P.S. KRISHNAN)

Encl: As stated

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

28/9/98

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

TAMIL NADU BENCH

FINDINGS

Per Justice Shri Shyamsundar, Chairperson

Case : Request for inclusion of "Velar" Caste/
community in the Central List of Backward
Classes for Tamil Nadu.

Per Justice P.K. Shyamsundar, chairperson

I. Request

1. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has made a Request to the Commission for the inclusion of "Velar" caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu.

II. Public Hearing

2. A two-Member Bench of the NCBC consisting of Hon'ble Justice Shri P.K. Shyamsundar, Chairperson and Shri U.P. Singh, Hon'ble Member held a Public Hearing in respect of this Requests at Chennai on 19-6-1998. At the Public Hearing the State Government was represented by Shri N. Murugan, Secretary, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes Welfare Department, Shri A. Panneerselvam, Joint Secretary, Backward Classes and Most Backward Classes, Shri P. Shanmugam, Director of Most Backward Classes and Denotified Communities and Shri P.W.C. Davidar, Director of Backward Classes and

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Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes

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Member Secretary
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for Backward Classes

Minorities Welfare and other officers of the Backward Classes Welfare Department.

3. No member or representative of 'Velar' Caste/Community appeared before the Bench at the Public Hearing, even though publicity was made through the media and also inspite of the specific request made to the State Government to make available at least one member of these castes/communities at the Public Hearing since the Request for their inclusion was made by the State Government.

III. FACTS

4. "Velar" Caste/Community is included in the State List of Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu, but it is not included in the Mandal List of Backward Classes. Therefore, it is not included in the first phase of Central List of Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu as it did not fulfill the criteria of commonality i.e. being in the State List as well as Mandal List.

5. The relevant entries in different lists of Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu are as follows:-

State List

II.15.Kulala(including Kuyavar and Kumbarar)

Mandal List

132.Kulala(including Kumbarar and Kyyavar)

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P. S. KRISHNAN
Member
National
for Backward

Central List

80. Kulala (including Kuyavar and Kumbarar)

6. Detailed account of this caste/community could not be found in the available ethnographic literature. The Bench therefore is left with no other alternative but to examine these cases on the basis of the data/information provided by the State Government in the NCBC's Questionnaire (since the Request was from State Government and were not able to produce a member or representatives of the community) and other evidence brought before it during the Public Hearing. Unfortunately, the State Government has expressed its inability to provide full data information asked for in the NCBC's Questionnaire and could provide only a limited information in the Questionnaire and some statistical data.

7. The NCBC's Questionnaire inadequately filled up by the State Government states that this Caste/Community is spread over in Tamil Nadu, with a population of 4128 and are concentrated in Madurai and Ramanathapuram Districts. This caste/community was included in the State List of Backward Classes vide G.O. Ms. No. 1564 dated 30.7.1985. Percentage of members of the community engaged in manual labour and women engaged in manual labour are 87.50% & 40% respectively, which is far above the State Average of 61.39% & 27.67%. Children, as a general practice are not engaged in manual labour for supplementing the family's income. Literacy rate of the community is given as 68.04%, which is above the State average of 65.34%. The percentage of members of the

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community living in Kachha house is given as 100%, which is far above the State Average of 52.34%.

8. During the Public Hearing, the State Government clarified that 'Velar' is a title of 'Kulala' and it was included in the State List of Backward Classes of Tamil Nadu in the year 1985, after considering the representation from the Kulala community that in some districts the school authorities are issuing community certificate as 'Velar' instead of 'Kulala', as many of them are using the title of 'Velar' in some districts.

9. The Report of the — Ambasankar Commission (Tamil Nadu Second Backward Classes Commission) under the head 'Kulala' mentions as under:

"Kulala is an artisan community specialising in manufacture and selling of earthen ware. This is a totally rural based community. Some of them are also highly talented in the manufacture of colourful dolls and play things.

.....The titles used by them are Udayar, Velar, and Chettiar.

One of the representatives represented that in some districts the School authorities mention their community as 'VELAR' instead of 'KULALA' in school records and because there was no such community under the Backward Classes list their people could not get community certificate in time. Therefore, he suggested that the Government might be requested to issue suitable instructions to the school authorities in this regard. But 'Velar' is only a title of Kulala."

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National
for Backward

10. The Bench is of the view that from the State Government's data/information regarding social status, the submission of State Government and the mention in the Ambasankar Commission's Report, clarifies that 'Velar' is a title of 'Kulala' and deserves inclusion in the list of Backward Classes.

IV. Findings

11. From the above material and evidence, it is the Findings of the Bench that "Velar" is a synonym of 'Kulala'. Therefore "Velar" should be included in the Central List of Backward Clases for Tamil Nadu along with the existing entry of "Kulala, at entry No.80. After amendment, the entry would read as under:

"80.Kulala(including Kuyavar,Kumbarar and Velar)"

Madan Mohan
24.9.98

Me. Reg. aucthordy
24.9.98

AUTHENTICATED

R. S. Krishnam
R. S. KRISHNAM
Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes

V.

Advice of the Commission

12. The Commission considered and agreed in full with the above findings of the Tamil Nadu 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 Government under 9(2) of the Act.

"Velar" should be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tamil Nadu along with the existing entry of "Kulala" at entry No.80. After amendment, the entry would read as under:

"80.Kulala(including Kuyavar,Kumbarar and Velar)

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.

Navtej Puadhi
24.9.98

P. S. Krishnam
24.9.98

P. S. Krishnam
28.9.98

Kshayan
24.09.98

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