



श्री एस० कृष्णन्

S. KRISHNAN

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सदस्य-सचिव
राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग

भारत सरकार

त्रिकुट-१, भीकाजी कामा प्लेस, नई दिल्ली-११००६६

Member-Secretary

National Commission for Backward Classes

Government of India

Trikoot-1, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066

NCBC/Advice/Karnataka 47-48/97
June 26, 1997

Dear Shri Baksi,

I am sending herewith the Advices of the National Commission for Backward Classes under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act 1993 regarding inclusion of "Lonari" as synonym/sub-caste of "Uppara", and "Chitara, Chittari" castes of Karnataka in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka for necessary action under Section 9(2) of the Act by the Central Government.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(P.S.KRISHNAN)

Encl: As Stated

Shri K.K.Baksi
Secretary
Ministry of Welfare
Shastri Bhavan
New Delhi-110001

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Karnataka Bench

Findings

Per Shri P.S.Krishnan, Member-Secretary

Case: Request for Inclusion of "Lonari" in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka as a synonym/sub-caste of "Uppara"

I. Request

This case arises from the Request of the Karnataka State Uppara Sangha, Bangalore for the inclusion of a number of synonyms/sub-castes of their caste/community "Uppara" including "Lonari" in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka, these synonyms/sub-castes having been included in the State List but not in the first phase Central List. The Commission after enquiry has tendered its Advice to the Govt. of India vide its letter No. NCBC/Karnataka/23-43/96 dated August 9/10, 1996 in respect of the following synonyms/sub-castes of "Uppara":-

- (i) Kallu Kutiga Uppara
- (ii) Melusakkareyavaru
- (iii) Namada Uppara
- (iv) Sunna Uppara
- (v) Sunnagara
- (vi) Uppaliga
- (vii) Uppaliga Shetty
- (viii) Padit/Padti
- (ix) Uppar
- (x) Sagar
- (xi) Kerebandiyavaru

II. Public Hearing

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Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes

Commission consisting Hon'ble Justice Shri Shyam Sunder, Chairperson, NCBC and Shri P.S.Krishnan, Hon'ble Member-Secretary, NCBC held a Public Hearing at Bangalore on 28. 4. 1997 inter alia to examine the Request of the Sangha for inclusion of "Lonari" as a synonym of Uppara in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka. Shri Sahu Akshaya Bhai, Hon'ble Member, NCBC also joined the Bench.

3. At the Public Hearing the Sangha was represented by its Secretary Shri Lokesh and other Members. The State Government was represented by Shri K. Narayan, Director, Backward Classes and Minorities Deptt., Shri Krishna Gowda, Joint-Director and other officers of the Backward Classes and Minorities Department.

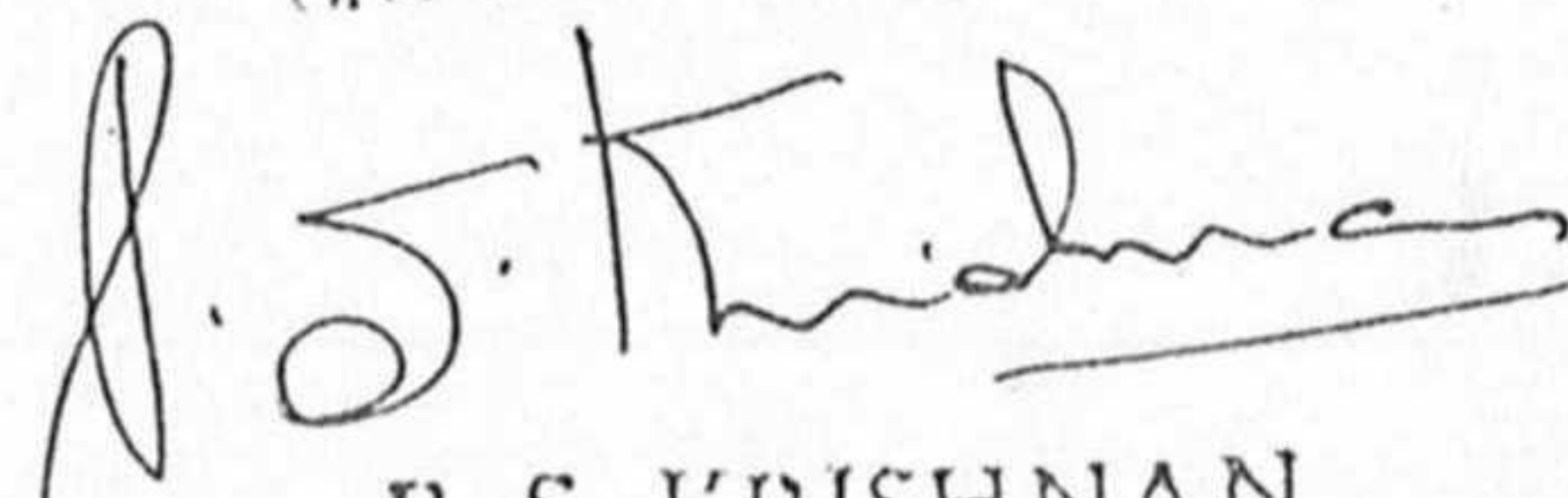
III. Facts

4. The Karnataka State List of Backward Classes is divided into a number of groups which underwent modifications from time to time. In the list that existed at the time of the preparation of the Central List on the principle of commonality, there were 5 groups, viz., Group A, Group B, Group C, Group D and Group E. In the latest State list which was issued with GO No. SWD 150 BCA 94 dated 17.9.1994 there are again 5 groups, renamed as Categories, viz., Category I, Category II(A), Category II(B), Category III(A) and Category III(B). "Lonari" has been included in the latest State List at entry no. 47(g) under Category I, as follows:-

Category-I

<u>S.No.</u>	<u>Name of the Caste</u>
"47.	(a) Uppara (g) Lonari"

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Member Secretary
National Commission

The corresponding entry in the State List that existed at the time of the preparation of the first phase Central List in 1993 on the basis of the principle of commonality, reads as follows:-

Group 'B'

- "108. (a) Uppara
(b) Uppera
(c) Uppilliyan
(d) Beldar
(e) Sagara
(f) Chunar
(g) Gavandi
(h) Govandi
(i) Gavadi
(j) Goundi
(k) Melusakkare"

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Though "Lonari" has not been included in this entry as a synonym of Uppara, it has been included separately at entry no. 71 under Group B of this list. It has also been included in the Mandal List for Karnataka at entry no. 188.

5. Since "Lonari" has been included in both the Mandal List for Karnataka and the State List that existed at the time of the preparation of the first phase Central List on the basis of the principle of commonality, it has also been included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka at entry no. 115. However, the representatives of the community appeared before the 2-Member Bench during the Public Hearing has specifically made the request that it should be included in the Central List as a synonym of "Uppara" as in the case of the latest State List.

6. The NCBC's Questionnaire filled up by the State Government

states that Lonari is a sub-caste of Uppara and that it is largely concentrated in Belgaum and Bijapur districts of the State. The Questionnaire gives "Salt Manufacturing, Tank digging, Earth work" as their main occupation. It also states that this caste/community is, in terms of the caste system, identified with the traditional or hereditary occupations of "Construction of Forts, Irrigational Channels etc."

7. The name "Lonari" has been attested to by R.E. Enthoven in his book The Tribes and Castes of Bombay, Vol. II (Asian Educational Services, New Delhi, Madras, 1990, first published in 1922). About their occupation, he writes: "From the probable derivation of the word 'Lonari' (lona Salt) it is likely that the hereditary occupation of the caste was once preparing salt, and Lonaris following that occupation are still found in Belgaum district. Most of them are now cement makers and charcoal burners. They buy lime nodules and burn lime with charcoal and cowdung cakes in a circular brick kiln. Some are husbandmen and labourers."

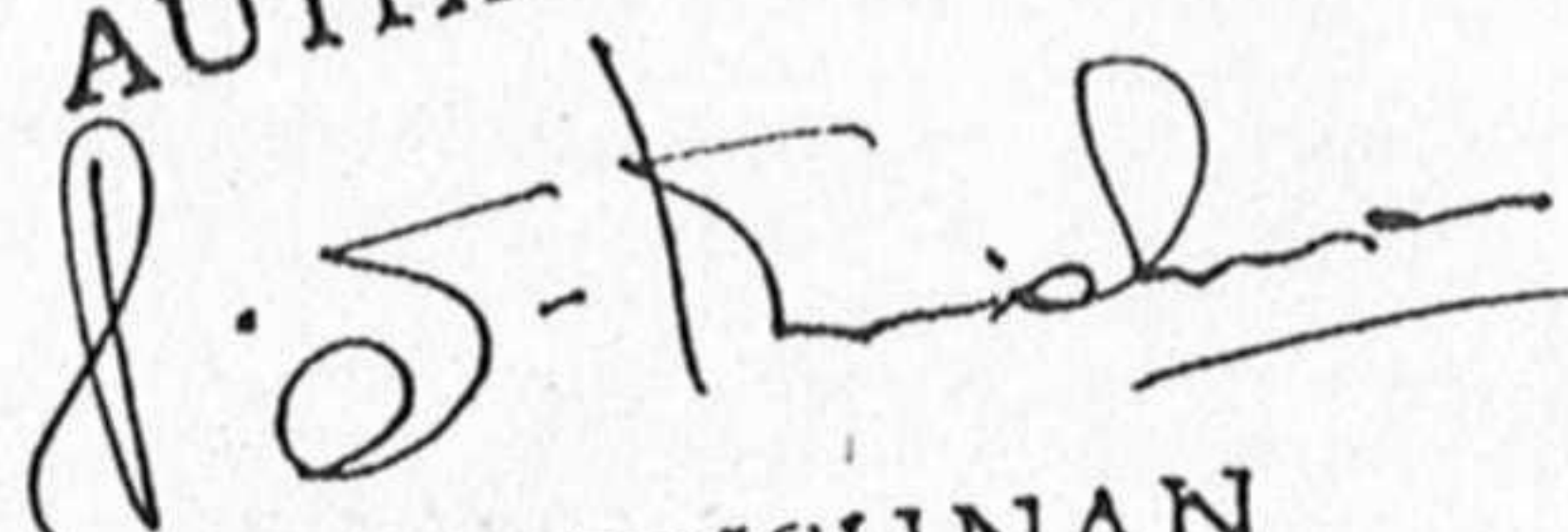
8. There was no objection to the proposed inclusion of this caste/sub-caste/community as a synonym of "Uppara" in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka during the Public Hearing. The State Government representatives also supported the Request.

IV. Findings

9. From the above evidence, it is the Finding of the Bench that "Lonari" is a synonym of the "Uppara" caste and this should, by transfer from the existing entry No. "115. Lonari", be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka as a synonym of "Uppara" caste in addition to the existing synonyms/sub-castes at entry no. 146, so that the

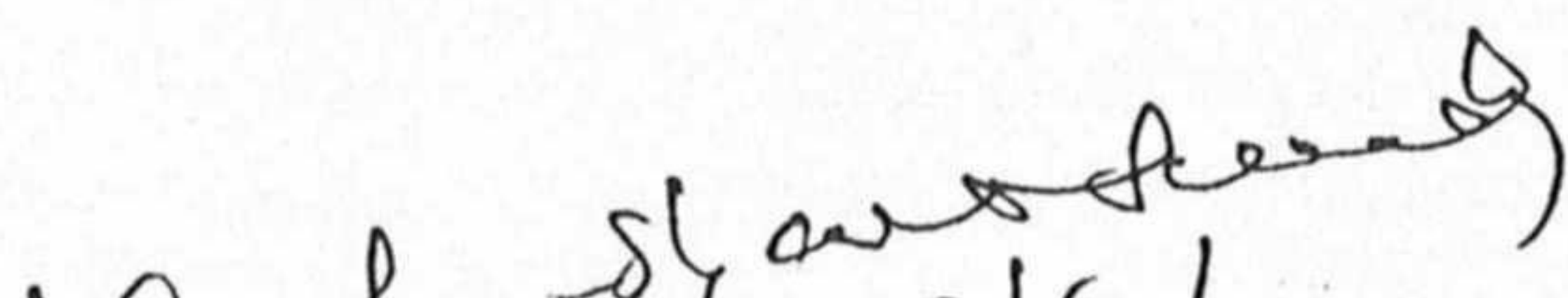
amended entry will read as follows:-

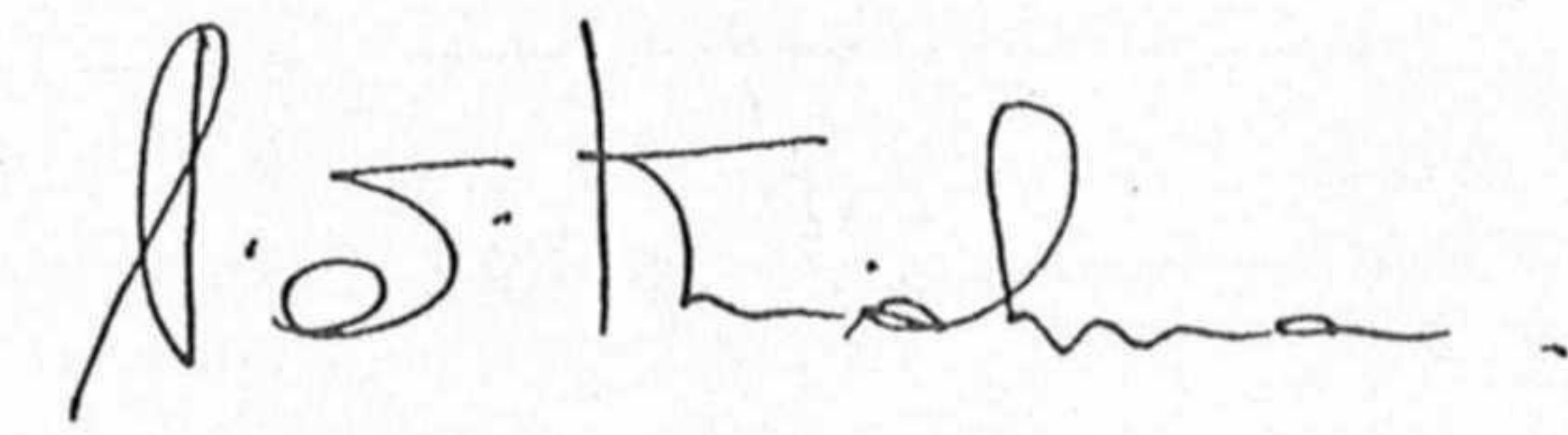
"146. Uppara
.....
Lonari
....."

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for Backward Classes

re-arranging in the alphabetical order the synonyms/sub-castes under "Uppara".

10. It is observed that in a number of cases, certificate issuing authorities do not issue Backward Class certificates in respect of the period prior to the Central Government's Notification. The process by which a caste/community became backward is centuries old. Its backwardness did not emerge suddenly on the date of the Notification. The relevance of the date of the Findings or the Advice of the Government's Notification is only that the backwardness of the caste/community, which was already a social reality, was, after enquiry, officially noted and recognised on that particular date. But the benefit of this recognition should be available from the date from which the reservation for Backward Classes came into effect, i.e., 8.9.1993. Therefore, it is necessary to specify that the Notifications takes effect from the date from which reservation for Backward Classes came into effect and the members of the caste/community are eligible for reservation from that date.


3/6/


2.6.1997

V. Advice of the Commission

11. The Commission considered and agreed in full the Findings of the Karnataka Bench and decided to tender the following Advice to the Central Government in terms of Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993:-

"Lonari" be, by transfer from the existing entry No. "115. Lonari", included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka as a synonym of "Uppara" caste in addition to the existing synonyms/sub-castes at entry no. 146, so that the amended entry will read as follows:-

"146. Uppara
.....
Lonari
....."

re-arranging in the alphabetical order the synonyms/sub-castes under "Uppara".

12. In view of the difficulties faced by the members of Backward Classes in getting Backward Class certificates for the period prior to the Notification, a proviso should be included in the Notification to be issued that "the Notification will take effect from 8.9.1993", the date from which reservation for Backward Classes in the Central Services came into effect.

Deputy Secretary
26/6/97

P. S. Krishna
26.6.1997

Deputy Secy.
26/6/97

Kshyem
26.06.97

Deputy Secy.
26.6.97

AUTHENTICATED

P. S. Krishna
SECRETARY

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
Karnataka Bench

Findings

Per Shri P.S.Krishnan, Member-Secretary

Case: Request for Inclusion of "Chitara, Chittari" in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka

I. Request

This case arises from the Request of the Sree Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya Sangha, Bangalore for the inclusion of "Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya" and a number of its synonyms including "Chitara, Chittari" in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka. There was also a similar request from the Karnataka State Somavamsha Samaj, Hubli. The Commission has already sent its Advice to the Govt. of India in respect of the Request for Inclusion of "Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya" and its synonyms "Chitragar", "Tambat" and "Nalabund" vide its letter DO Case No. NCBC/Karnataka/23-43/96 dated 9/10. 8. 1996.

II. Public Hearing

2. The two-Member Karnataka Bench of the reconstituted Commission consisting of Hon'ble Justice Shri Shyam Sunder, Chairperson, NCBC and Shri P.S.Krishnan, Hon'ble Member-Secretary, NCBC held a Public Hearing at Bangalore on 28.4.1997 to examine this Request. Shri Sahu Akshaya Bhai, Hon'ble Member, NCBC also joined the Bench.

3. At the Public Hearing the community was represented by

Shri R. Laxminarayana Raju, Hon. Secretary, Sree Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya Seva Sangha, Shri N.A.Ponarkar, Vice-President, Karnataka State Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya Samaja and other members of the community. The State Government was represented by Shri K.Narayan, Director, Backward Classes and Minorities Deptt., Shri Krishna Gowda, Joint-Director and other officers of the Backward Classes and Minorities Deptt.

III. Facts

4. The Karnataka State List of Backward Classes is divided into a number of groups which underwent modifications from time to time. In the list that existed at the time of the preparation of the Central List on the principle of commonality, there were 5 groups, viz., Group A, Group B, Group C, Group D and Group E. In the latest State list which was issued with GO No. SWD 150 BCA 94 dated 17.9.1994 there are again 5 groups renamed as Categories, viz., Category I, Category II(A), Category II(B), Category III(A) and Category III(B). "Chitara" has been included in the latest State List at entry no. 43(b) under Category I, as follows:-

Category-I

<u>S.No.</u>	<u>Name of the Caste</u>
"43.	(a) Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya
	(b) Chitara
	
	

The corresponding entry in the State list that existed at the time of the preparation of the first phase Central List in 1993 on the basis of the principle of commonality, reads as

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follows:-

Group D

- "6. (a) Somavamsha Kshatriya
(b) Chitragara
(c) Jeenagara
(d) Nalabund
(e) Tambat"

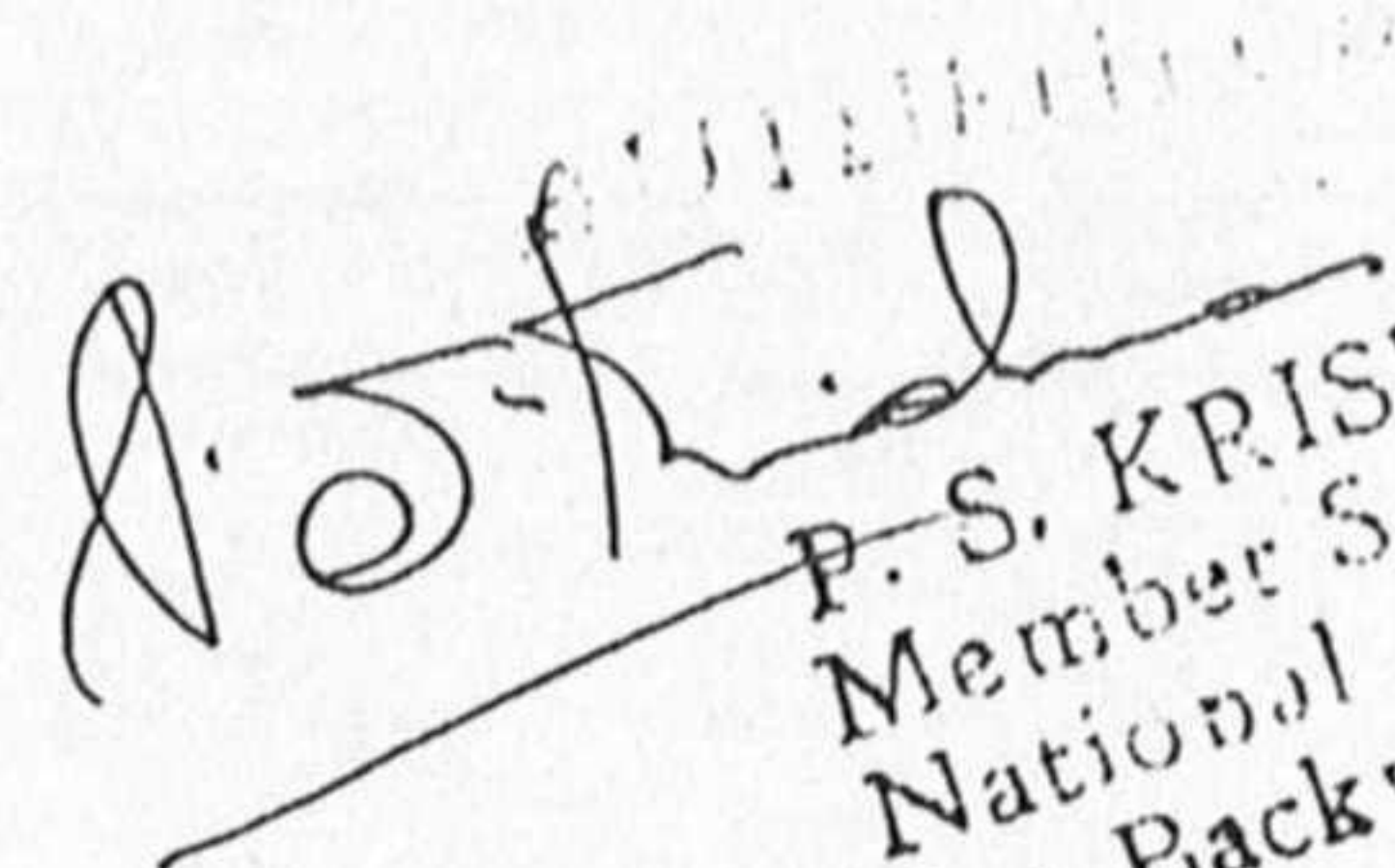
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Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes

Though "Chitara" has not been included in this entry as a synonym of Somavamsha Kshatriya, it has been included separately at entry no. 29 of Group B of this list. It has also been included in the Mandal List for Karnataka with a spelling variation at entry no. 68 as follows:

"68. Chitra, Chitrakar"

5. Since "Chitara" has been included in both the Mandal List for Karnataka and the State List that existed at the time of the preparation of the first phase Central List on the basis of the principle of commonality, it has also been included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka at entry no. 75. However, the representatives of the community appeared before the 2-Member Bench during the Public Hearing has specifically made the request that it should be included in the Central List as a synonym of Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya as in the case of the latest State List.

6. At the Public Hearing the representatives of the community said that Chitara and Chittari are the regional variant spellings of one and the same community with "Chitara" being used in the northern parts of Karnataka and "Chittari" in the southern parts. They have also stated that the members of the community call themselves as "Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya", this name being the common name adopted by a group of castes/sub-castes/communities which apart from "Chitara, Chittari"


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of castes/sub-castes was saddle-making with different sections/sub-castes contributing different parts of the saddle. In the past, there was heavy demand for their products and services but in modern times the demand has fallen sharply or even disappeared and members of this caste or group of castes/sub-castes are engaged in different occupations like agricultural labour, painting, carpentry etc.

7. The NCBC's Questionnaire filled up by "Sree Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya Seva Sangha" describes this community as a sub-caste of "Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya" and gives "Painting and art work" as their main occupation. The name "Arya Somavamsha Kshatriya" is attested to by the anthropologist L.K. Ananthakrishna Iyer (The Mysore Tribes and Castes, Vol-3, Mittal Publications, Reprint 1988). According to him, the traditional occupation of the caste is saddle-making; formerly, manufacture of native saddlery did not include leather, but was made with cloth, felt, cotton rope, metal work, embellished with embroidery and ornamental metal bosses, involving a knowledge of different handicrafts. While alluding to the "great importance" that the saddle-making castes/sub-castes/communities had had "in the days when the annual equipment of large military forces led to an extensive demand for saddlery", he also observes that the introduction and use of leather in saddlery "seems to have caused some deterioration in their social status. He further says that in the modern times "most of them have given up" their original occupation and that "they now follow a variety of callings such as casting metals, carving stones, painting, making toys, and figures of clay and cloth, carving wood and repairing boxes, padlocks and watches", making "vinas and lyres" and "making life-like imitations of fruits and figures of men and animals".

8. R.E. Enthoven (The Tribes and Castes of Bombay, Vol. I, Asian Educational Services, New Delhi, Madras, 1990, first published 1922) attests to this community under the head "Chitar" and refers to it as "A sub-division of Jingars".

9. There was no objection to the proposed inclusion of this caste/sub-caste/community as a synonym of Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka during the Public Hearing. The State Government representatives also supported the Request.

IV. Findings

10. From the above evidence, it is the Finding of the Bench that "Chitara, Chittari" is a synonym/sub-caste of "Somvamsha Arya Kshatriya", which is a common name adopted by a group of castes/communities/sub-castes/sub-communities -- including the "Chitara, Chittari" -- who are associated with the occupations of painting, horse-shoe making, carpentry etc. and this should, by transferring the existing entry No. 75. Chitara" to entry No. 170 and adding "Chittari" also at entry No. 170, be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka, as follows:-

"170. Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya

.....

Chitara,

Chittari

....."

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11. It is observed that in a number of cases, certificate issuing authorities do not issue Backward Class certificates in respect of the period prior to the Central Government's Notification. The process by which a caste/community became backward is centuries old. Its backwardness did not emerge suddenly on the date of the Notification. The relevance of the date of the Findings or the Advice or the Government's Notification is only that the backwardness of the

caste/community, which was already a social reality, was, after enquiry, officially noted and recognised on that particular date. But the benefit of this recognition should be available from the date from which the reservation for Backward Classes came into effect, i.e., 8.9.1993. Therefore, it is necessary to specify that the Notifications takes effect from the date from which reservation for Backward Classes came into effect and the members of the caste/community are eligible for reservation from that date.

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P. S. Krishna
2.6.1997

V. Advice of the Commission

12. The Commission considered and agreed in full with the Findings of the Karnataka Bench and decided to tender the following Advice to the Central Government in terms of Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993:-

"Chitara, Chittari" be, by transferring the existing entry No. "75. Chitara" to entry No. 170 and adding "Chittari" also at entry No. 170, included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka, as follows:-

"170. Somavamsha Arya Kshatriya"

.....

Chitara,

Chittari

....."

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13. In view of the difficulties faced by the members of Backward Classes in getting Backward Class certificates for the period prior to the Notification, a proviso should be included in the Notification to be issued that "Notification

will take effect from 8.9.1993", the date from which reservation for Backward Classes in the Central Services came into effect.

File No. 26-27

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26.6.97

Kohagen
26.06.97

Madan Singh
26/6/97

Govt. Secy
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