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MEMBER SECRETARY
NATIONAL COMMISSION
FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
NEW DELHI-110 066

D.O. Case No. AP 20/94

03. 01. 1995

Dear Shri Mata Prasad,

I am sending herewith the unanimous advice of the National Commisison for Backward Classes under section 9(1) of the NCBC Act 1993 regarding substitution of offensive description in respect of "Dasari" at Sl.No. 6 "Dasari (Formerly addicted to crimes and beggary)" of the Central List of OBCs for Andhra Pradesh for necessary action under section 9(2) of the Act by the Central Government. The entry after this substitution should be "6. Dasari (formerly engaged in Bhikshatana)."

Happy New Year,

Yours sincerely

P.S. Krishnan
(P.S. Krishnan)

Shri Mata Prasad
Secretary
Ministry of Welfare
Shastri Bhavan
NEW DELHI

Enclosure: NCBC Advice No. AP 20/94

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
ANDHRA PRADESH BENCH

CASE: Substitution of offensive description
occurring after the name "DASARI" in the
Central List of OBCs for Andhra Pradesh.

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The two-Member Bench consisting of Shri P.S. Krishnan, Member-Secretary and Prof. D.L. Sheth, Member, held a Preliminary Hearing at Hyderabad on 10th October, 1994. During the hearing, the Bench considered the request of the Dasari (Bikhatana) Sangham, Warangal District, Andhra Pradesh for change of the offensive description of the community occurring in the Central List.

The entry in the Central List is as follows:-

"6. DASARI (Formerly addicted to crimes and beggary)"

This description exactly follows the entry as finding place in the existing State List (Group-A, Sl. No.6). Apparently, this description had been introduced by the State Government following the Anantharaman Commission in order to distinguish it from any other community with a similar name. The Bench heard in detail Dr. Vishnumurthy, on behalf of the Sangham about the history, status and recent progress of this very backward community. The Bench was moved by the fact that members of this community were compelled by socio-economic conditions of the past to resort to begging with some link with religious practices and to petty crimes. It was encouraging to learn that in the last 15 or 20 years the community has taken to education and begun to come up by utilization of the benefits of the reservation policy. In this short period, this small community centred in Warangal District has been able to

produce 4 or 5 Post Graduates including Dr. Vishnumurthy. In spite of this, on account of the description contained in the list they are being subjected to the humiliation of being questioned whether they are still resorting to crimes and have to periodically report to the police station.

There is force in the plea of the representative of the Sangham to remove the offensive description and his arguments in favour of it. The purpose of distinguishing this community from other communities having a similar name can be achieved by substituting the present description with the following description:

"formerly engaged in religious mendicancy"

In fact, this is in keeping with the description of the traditional occupation of this community given in Appendix-VI of the Anatharaman Commission's Report, namely, "religious mendicants"

In view of the above, the finding and the view of the Bench is that the present entry in the Central List of OBCs for Andhra Pradesh, namely "6. Dasari (formerly addicted to crimes and beggary)" be substituted by the following entry:

"6. DASARI (formerly engaged in religious mendicancy)".

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[Handwritten notes and dates: 9/10/94, 11/11/94]

At the Meeting of the Commission held on the 27th October, 1994 the Chairperson suggested that the Bench may also consult the State Government in this regard.

Accordingly, the State Government was addressed in this regard and subsequently the 2-Member Bench of the Commission discussed this matter with the State Government representatives during its Public Hearing held on the 24. 12. 1994 at Hyderabad. The State Government was represented by the Secretary, Backward Classes Welfare and the Commissioner, Backward Classes Welfare. They were in agreement with this modification, with the suggestion that instead of the words "religious mendicancy" the word "Bhikshatana" may be adopted, and said that they will be moving in the same direction.

In view of the above, the finding and view of the Bench is that the present entry in the Central List of OBCs for Andhra Pradesh, namely "6. Dasari (formely addicted to crimes and beggary)" be substituted by the following entry:

"6. Dasari (formerly engaged in Bhikshatana)

P. S. Krishna

Done

Authenticated

P. S. Krishna

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