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सदस्य-सचिव
राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग

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

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

NCBC Advice No. West Bengal 47/99

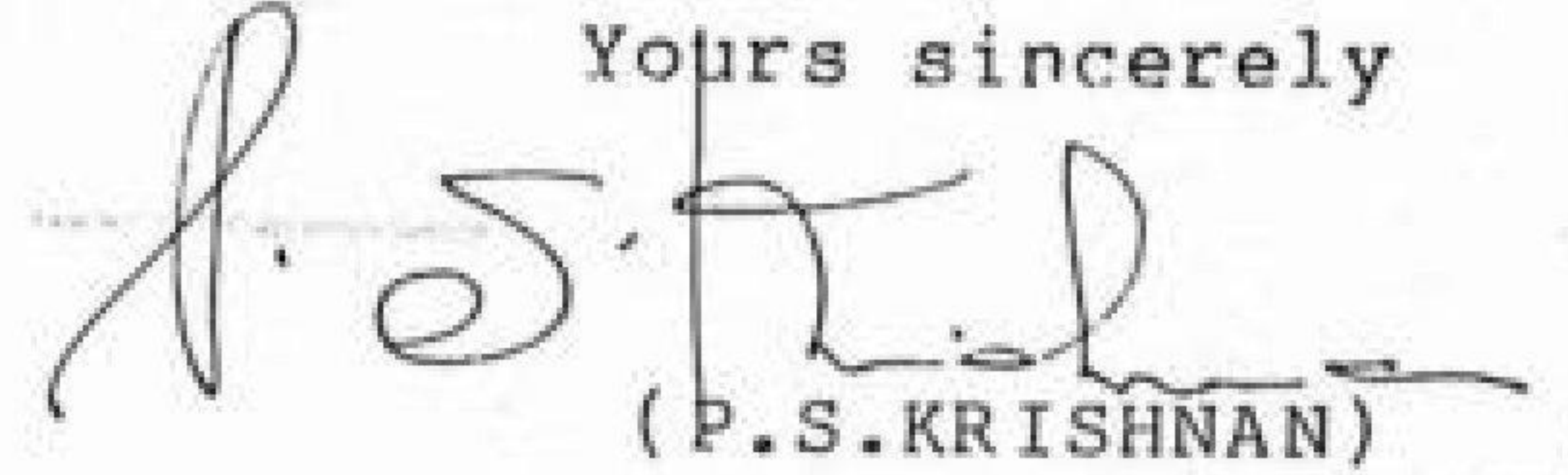
10.02.1999

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 "Kasai-Quraishi" caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for West Bengal, duly authenticated, for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the Act.

2. With this, Advices on 537 (293 for Inclusion + 244 for Rejection) castes, sub-castes, synonyms etc. have been tendered to the Government by the Commission, after its reconstitution in 1997, of which 531 (287 for Inclusion + 244 for Rejection) are still pending with the Government for Notification.

Yours sincerely


(P.S. KRISHNAN)

Encl: As stated.

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


15/1/99

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

WEST BENGAL

FINDINGS

Case : Request for inclusion of "Kasai (Quraishi)" caste community in the Central List of Backward Classes for West Bengal.

Per Shri U.P. Singh, Member

This case arises from the Request received in this Commission from Md. Sohail Roomi, Secretary, Purulia Zilla Backward Muslim Community Federation, At - Kasai Mohalla, P.O. & Dist. Purulia, West Bengal for inclusion in the Central List of Backward Classes for West Bengal.

II. Public Hearing

2. The two-Member West Bengal Bench of the Commission consisting of Hon'ble Member, Shri U.P. Singh and Hon'ble Member, Shri Sahu Akshay Bhai held a Public Hearing at Calcutta on 9.9.1998 in respect of this Request. At the Public Hearing the State Govt. was represented by Shri K.N. Behera, Managing Director, West Bengal SC & ST Development & Finance Corporation & Managing Director, West Bengal Backward Classes Development & Finance Corporation, Shri J. Misra, Member-Secretary, West Bengal Backward Classes Commission and Dr. M.K. Chaudhari, Director, Cultural and Research Institute, Calcutta. The caste/community was represented by the following:-

- i) Md. Sohail Roomi
- ii) Md. Ekram Quraishi
- iii) Shri Ghulam Haider Quraishi

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III. Facts

3. The "Kasai-Maji" caste community has been included in the Mandal List.
4. The State Govt of West Bengal 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 West Bengal 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 West Bengal in 1993. The Govt. of West Bengal issued its first list of Backward Classes by its Notification No. 346-TW/EC/M-6/82(I) dated 13th July, 1994 in the Calcutta Gazette of the same date, which consisted of 14 entries. The Government of India, Ministry of Welfare, by its Notification No. 163 dated 19.10.1994, published in the Gazette of India of 20.10.1994, issued a common list of OBCs for West Bengal which consisted of the same 14 castes/communities and did not include "Kasai (Quraishi)".
5. The Govt. of West Bengal by its Notification No. 93-TW/EC dated 11th February, 1997, published in the Calcutta Gazette of the same date, of the 8 castes/communities including the "Kasai" caste community as follows:-
"8. Kasai" (List-6)
6. The representatives appeared at the Public Hearing stated that their main caste is 'Kasai' and 'Quraishi' is its title and they are engaged in the occupation of butcher. In their documents their caste is written as "Kasai (Quraishi)" instead of "Kasai". However, they agreed to suggestion of the Bench to put the hyphenated entry i.e. "Kasai - Quraishi" in the Central List of Backward Classes for West Bengal.

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7. The filled-in NCBC's Questionnaire obtained from the representatives of the caste/community at the Public Hearing mentions that "Kasai" is the main caste and is also known by the name of "Quraishi". The population of the caste is stated to be 508000 spread all over the State and listed as backward class in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, etc. The main occupation of the community is said to be "Beef and Meat Business" which involves manual labour rendered on own work. The literacy rate of the caste community is reported to be 0.98%. The percentage of matriculates is stated to be 0.75% and that of graduates 0.20%. 95% families of the community are stated to be living in kachha house and 5% in pucca houses. The representation of the members of the community in the Govt. services and other professions is reported to be 'Nil'

8. H. H. Risley in his book "The Tribes And Castes of Bengal" (Published by Firma Mukhopadhyay, Calcutta, 1981, Reprint, 1st Edition, 1891, Vol. I, pp. 428-429) describes Kasai, a butcher. He writes that most butchers are Mahomedans, but in Bengal low Brahmins, Kaoras, and Bagdis slaughter goats and sheep, and are known as Hindu Kasais. In Eastern Bengal Mahomedan butchers are classed as Bakri-kasai or goat-killers and Goru-kasai or cow-killers and latter were formerly looked upon as degraded, but of late years the two groups have united and intermarry freely. All are followers of Moulavi Karamat Ali, and are very bigotted, eating with the Kuti, but declining to have anything to do with sweepers and Bediyas.

9. Those present during the Public Hearing not only did not object to the inclusion of "Kasai-Quraishi" caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for West Bengal rather supported it.

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12. The relevant entries in the lists of different States are as follows:-

S.No.	State	Entry No.	Name of the caste/community
1.	Bihar	5.	Kassab (Kasai) (Muslim)
2.	Delhi	28.	Kasai Qassab Quraishi
3.	Gujarat	33.	Khatik
4.	Karnataka	97.	Kasai Katik Khatik Katuka Katuga Kassab Aray
5.	Madhya Pradesh	59.	Islamic Group 11. Kasai, Kasab, Kassab, Qusazb, Qassab
6.	Uttar Pradesh	17.	Chikwa, Kassab, Chak

The NCBC has tendered its Advices for inclusion of the caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for the following States:-

S.No.	Name of the State	Caste/ community	Advice No.	Date
1.	Maharashtra	217. Khatik (Other than those who are included in the list of SCs for Maharashtra) Kasai, Kasab, Kasai-Quraishi	Maharashtra 19/98	15.10.98
2.	Uttar Pradesh	17. Qassab(Qureshi) 17. Qassai	U.P. 12-97 U.P. 20 97	26.12.97 15.10.98

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IV. Findings

9. From the above facts and evidence, the Bench finds that the "Kasai-Quraishi" caste community is engaged in the occupation of "Butchery", which falls under the "Fast-Track" category and is covered under Item A.Social-2(e) of the "Guidelines for Consideration of Requests for Inclusion and Complaints of Under-Inclusion in the Central List of Other Backward Classes" and Para 7 of "Procedural Clarification on Guidelines" as an artisanal caste. The Bench thus concludes that the "Kasai-Quraishi" caste/community is a socially and educationally backward caste and should be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for West Bengal at entry No. 45 as follows:-

"45. Kasai-Quraishi"

Ashayan
27.01.99
(Sahu Akshaya Bhai)

U.P. Singh
27.1.99
(U.P. Singh)

P.S. Krishnan
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Member, Commission
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V. Advice of the Commission

3. The Commission considered and agreed in full with the above Findings of the West Bengal Bench and decided to tender the following advice to the Central Government under Section 9(1) of the National Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993 for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the Act:-

"Kasai-Quraishi" caste/community be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for West Bengal at entry No. 45 as follows:-

"45. Kasai-Quraishi"

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.

R. Shyam
27.01.99

Navtej Puadhi
27.1.99

P. S. Krishnan
2.2.99

Devi Prasad
3/2

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