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सदस्य-सचिव
राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग
भारत सरकार
नई दिल्ली - 110 066
MEMBER-SECRETARY
NATIONAL COMMISSION
FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI - 110 066

03. 07. 1998

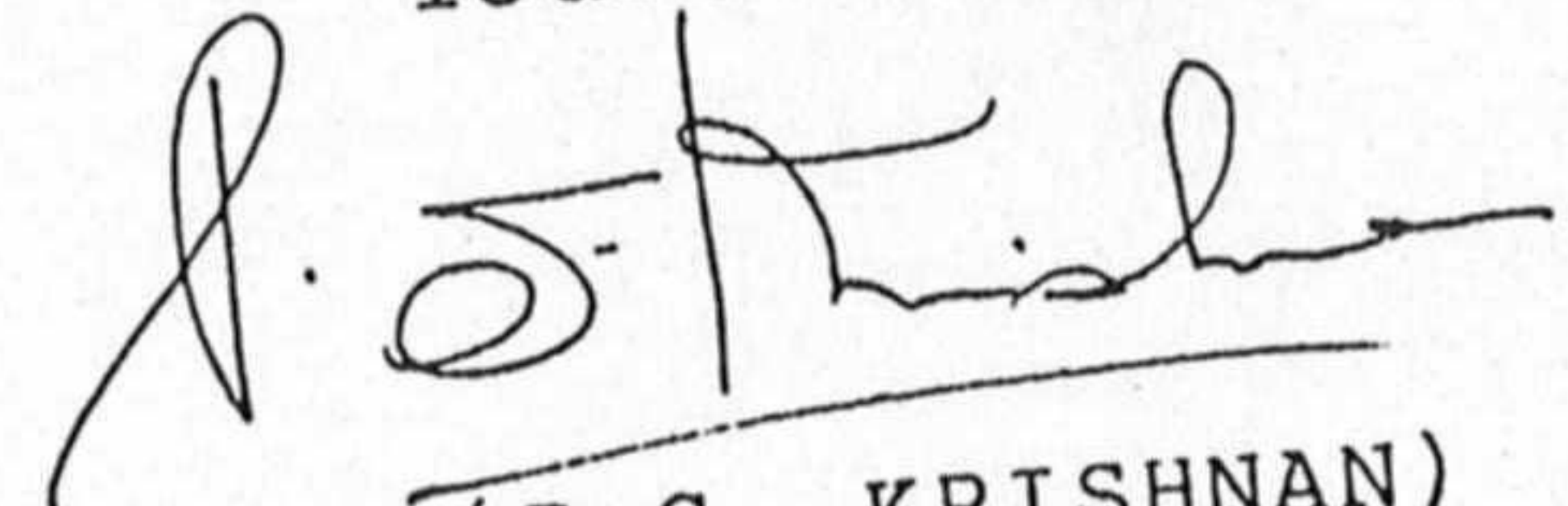
DO NCBC Advice No.25 UP/98

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 "Patwa, Patua, Pathar (excluding Agarwala, Deobansi, Kharewal, of Khandelwal who are sub-castes of Bania and Kharwar who claim to the rank of Rajput)" in the Central List of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh, for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the Act.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely


(P.S. KRISHNAN)

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

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
UTTAR PRDESH BENCH
FINDINGS

Case: Request for Inclusion of "Patwa (Patuwa/Pathar)"
in the Central List of Backward Classes for
Uttar Pradesh.

Per Justice P.K.Shyamsundar, Chairperson

I. Request

This case arises from the Requests received in this
Commission from the followings:-

1. Shri Jeevan Prakash,
General Secretary,
Uttar Pradesh Patwa Sabha,
86/108, Kumi Tola,
Lal Kuaon,
Lucknow.
2. Shri R.S.Patwa,
3/26, Ganganagar,
Rishikesh, Hardwar.
3. Hon. FL.Lt. P.L.Patwa (Retd)
MIG 24 Neem Sarain,
Mundera,
Allahabad.

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Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes

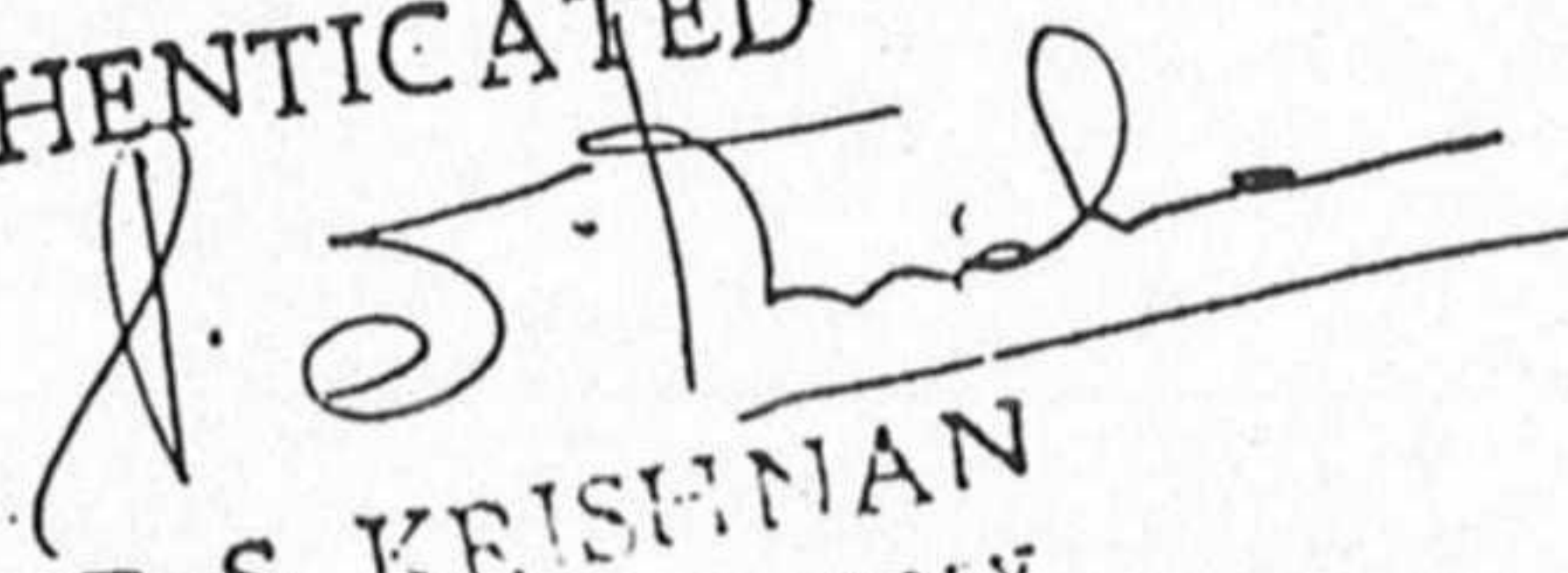
4. Shri Dhirendra Patwa
Deputy General Secretary,
Akhil Bhartiya Sri Patwa Vaishya
Mahasabha,
386/100, Purana Chabutara,
Saadatganj,
Lucknow.
5. Shri Ganga Prasad Patwa,
Uttar Pradesh Patwa Vikas
& Kalyan Parishad,
H.O.13/26, Ganganagar,
Rishikesh, Hardwar.

for inclusion of the "Patwa" (Patuwa/Pathar) caste/community the Central List of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh .The information in NCBC Questionnaire has been furnished by the Uttar Pradesh Patwa Vikas & Kalyan/Parishad, Rishikesh, Hardwar.

II. Public Hearing

2. The two Member Uttar Pradesh Bench of the Commission consisting of Hon'ble Chairperson, Justice P.K.Shyamsundar and Hon'ble Member, Shri Sahu Akshaya Bhai held a Public Hearing at Lucknow on 4.7.97 to examine this Request. Hon'ble Members, Prof. U.P.Singh and Shri Navtej Puadhi also joined the Bench. At the Public Hearing, the State Government was represented by Shri K.P.Singh, Secretary, Backward Classes Welfare, Uttar Pradesh . The Community was represented by Shri R.S.Patwa & Others.

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III Facts

3. Patwa Caste/Community has been included only in the Mandal list at entry no. 112 as follows:-

"112 Tanti, Tatwa, Tantripal, Patwa"

The State list of Backward Classes did not include the Patwa Caste. Therefore, at the time of preparation of the first phase Central list of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh Patwa caste is not included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh.

4. According to the representatives of the caste/community who made Requests to the NCBC the main occupation of the caste/community is "making of nupitalties (Rakhis) , Knoting with ornamental thread, Kardhani, Hair-tail/and selling these items in Fairs". The Caste/Community is engaged in their cottage-based occupation. Due to limited earnings from their occupation they have been economically backward . Their representation in government services is almost negligible and in the political institution nil. It was stated by them that the Cheddi Lal Sathi Commission Report (1978) and B.P.Mandal Report (1980) have recommended inclusion of their caste/community in the list of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh . It was also stated by them that Patwa caste has been included in the list of Backward Classes in the neighbouring states -- Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, & Rajasthan.

5. Shri R.S.Patwa, 3/26, Ganganagar, Rishikesh, Hardwar submitted information about his caste/community in the NCBC Questionnaire. The NCBC Questionnaire contains the following facts:-

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Member Secretary
Backward Classes

i). Patwa Caste is also known by the following names Patuwa/Pathar.

ii). According to Kaka Kalelkar Commission's Report (1955) population of the caste was 15,47,757 which is 0.20% of the total state's population and 0.50% of total OBC population. The Caste/Community is spread all over the state but largely concentrated in Bareilly district.

iii). Their Caste is included in the Mandal List at Sl.No.112.

iv). Their Caste has been included in the Central, State & Mandal list of the following States:-

v). According to the representatives of the caste/community the caste/community is, in terms of the caste system identified/linked with traditional craft _____ "Manual work of cotton & silk threads to manufacture Hair-tail(Choti), Rakhi, Janeo", etc.

6. W.Crooke in his ethnographic work "The Tribes and Castes of the North Western India " (Cosmo Publications, Delhi, 1975 Reprinted Vol.IV, PP.172- Originally published under the title 'The Tribes & Castes of the North Western Province & Oudh,' Calcutta -1896) gave an account about Patwa, Patua (Based on enquiries at Mirzapur and notes by M.Ram Sahay, teacher, Tahsili School, Mahoba, Hamirpur, M. Jamunadin, teacher Sunerpur School, Hamirpur, M.Chote Lal, Archaeological Survey, Lucknow, and the Deputy Inspector of Schools, Ballia and Farukhabad) as follows:-

"Patwa, Patua --(Sanskrit pata, "woven cloth":

Hindi pat, "silk").--The caste of braid and silk fringe makers. They are also generally known by the name of 'Ilageband or' Alageband ('ilaqa, 'alaqa, "connection"), who are usually Muhammadans practising the same occupation : Pathar, Patahra, Pathera.....

.....At the last Census they were recorded under the sub-tribes of Agarwala; Deobansi, or "the race of a god", and Kharwar, which is the name of an undoubtedly Dravidian tribe. In Benares, according to Mr. Sherring, their division are Kharewal or Khandewal, which is the name of one of the Banya Tribes; Khara, or "genuine", Deobansi; Lahera, or makers of ornaments in lac (Sanskrit laksha-kara); and Jogi Patwa. In Mirzapur there is a sub-

caste known as Khanrawa, who are said to take their name for some unexplained reason from Khanr, or coarse sugar, and to be out-castes. In Lucknow their sub-castes are Gauriya, Rewar, and Tanti. In Hamirpur they have a number of local sections which take their name from the villages in which they originally settled. These are Chhaniyan, who are named from the village of Chhani; Ratha from Rath; Tarela; Barauniya; Sikarwar; Kariya; Nasaniyan; and Jeorahiya. Here it is said that the sub-castes are exogamous, which is certainly a mistake. But these local divisions or sections practise hypergamy among themselves. Thus the Chhainiyan, Nasaniyan, and Barauniya give their daughters in marriage to the Tarela, Ratha, and Jeorahiya, but will not marry their sons in these groups.....

.....Patwas are generally Vaishnavas of the Kabirpanthi or Satyanami sect.....

.....Some of the Patwas weave silk from the indigenous cocoons. The 'Ilageband, who, as already stated, is usually a Muhammadan, makes coloured cords of silk or cotton thread used for the threading of beads and the binding together of ornaments such as the bazuband or

armlet, which consists of several pieces joined together in an elastic band, and he also makes braid, fringe, petticoat strings (nara), and girdles for drawers (izarband). The Patwa does pretty much the same work; but the Musalman occasionally adds to this whip-making as part of his buisness, which the Hindu does not. He buys up plain cotton and silk thread and dyes it himself, not, however, usually employing fast colours. The Lahera sub-caste is said to be so called because they chiefly use the lac dye(lah-lakh) for this purpose. In Lucknow some are wealthy traders, selling lac trimming (lachka), kalabatun, or gold silver thread, false gems and pearls, and they make up embroidery, presentation robes (khil'at) and necklaces for entertainments (har), etc. The country Patwa very commonly deals in women's spangles and forehead ornaments (tikuli), and he sells various kinds of cosmetics substances for making caste-marks, and common medicines". (PP.172-173)

7. According to Crooke population of the caste in 1891 was 30,977 which was based on Census of 1891, distributed in many districts of the North-West Province. Census of 1891 also gave 111 population of Patwas belonging to Agarwala a sub-caste of Bania community, a forward community. He has described Agarwala and Kharwar separately. Agarwal is a sub-caste of Bania and Kharwars claim the rank of Rajputs.

8. According to People of India-Communities, Segments, Synonyms, Surnames and Titles, General Editor K.S.Singh (Anthropological Survey of India /Oxford University Press, Delhi 1996, Vol.VIII). Patwa caste has the following Synonyms in Uttar Pradesh _____ Mahajan, Patahra, Parkan, Patna, Tanti, Vaish, Vaish Mahajan. This Caste uses "Patwa" as their Surname also (P.1687).

9. People of India has also stated existence of the Patwa caste in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar

Pradesh, Delhi & Bengal.

10. Ethnographic account about the existence of Patwa caste in Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, and West Bengal has been given in the following works - People of India-Delhi, Russell & Hiralal- Central Provinces, and H.H.Risley.....Bengal.

11. People of India- Delhi General Editor, K.S.Singh (Anthropological Survey of India/Manohar Publishers, Delhi 1996,P.556,Vol.XX) has described about the Patwa caste who have migrated from Uttar Pradesh to Delhi as follows:-

"The Patwa or Patua is an occupational caste of the braid and silk fringe makers. The name is derived from the Sanskrit word pata (woven cloth) or the Hindi word pat (silk).....They have migrated from Uttar Pradesh & recognise themselves as Deobanshi Patwa.....

..... The Patwas belong to one clan namely, Deobanshi. They recognize themselves as Vaishyas and perceive themselves in the middle rank in the social hierarchy. They use Patwa, Deval, Deobanshi and Verma as surnames(PP.556).....

..... The Patwa, being Vaishnav, accept from exchange food with the Brahman & Bania communities and avoid the Scheduled Castes & the Khatik Communities (P.559)."

12. The U.P. State Backward Clsres Commission, Lucknow vide its d.o.letter no.80/SCBC/State/96 dated 1.10.96 has informed the NCBC that the "Patwa" caste is one among castes/communities for which survey is required to be done. The state commission is yet to start the survey work. In that view of the matter this commission cannot wait indefinitely for the survey Report and has therefore,decided to formulate its findings on the basis of the available evidence which appears to be substantial.

13. During the Public hearing those who were present from different sections of the society supported for inclusion of the Patwa caste/community in the Central list of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh.

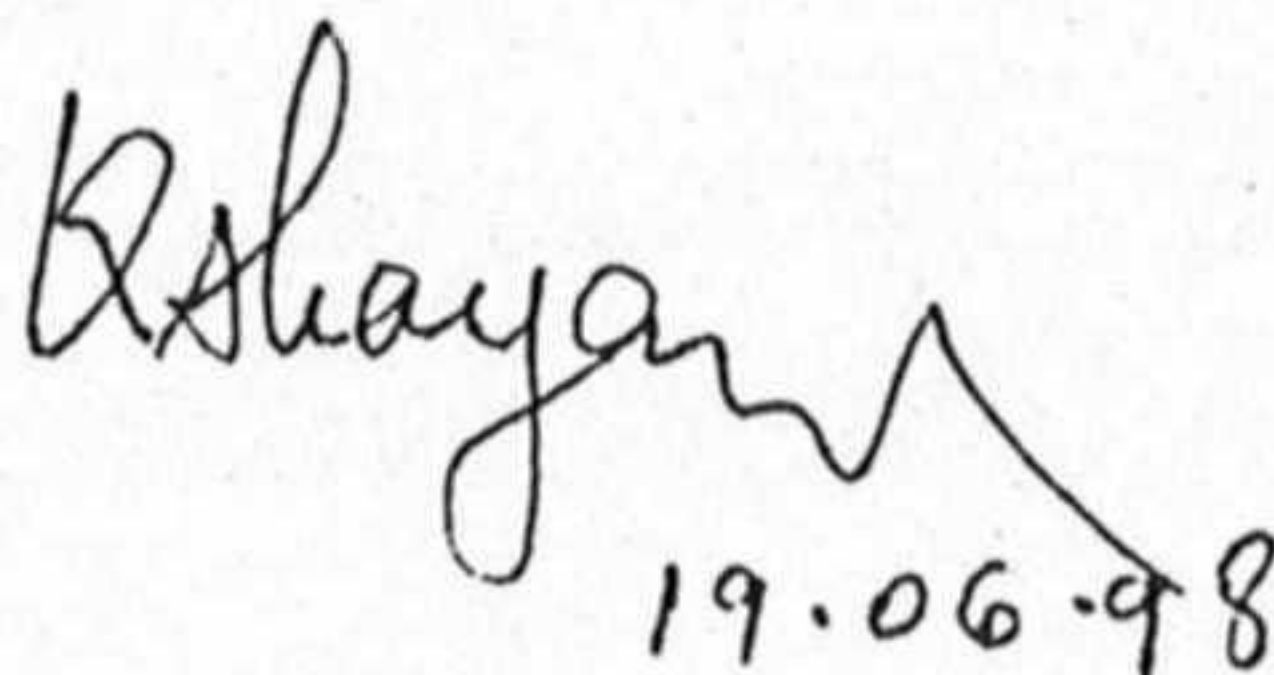
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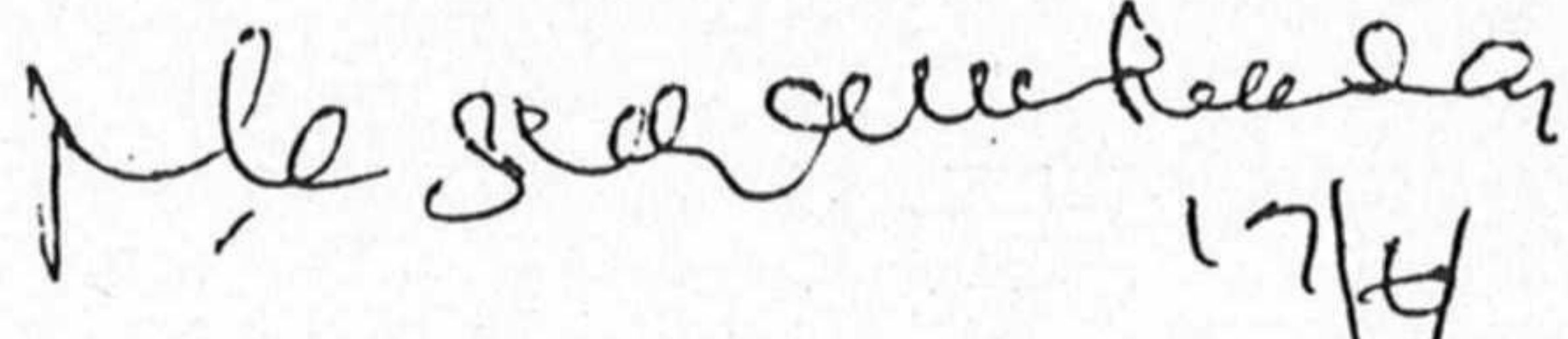
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IV. Findings

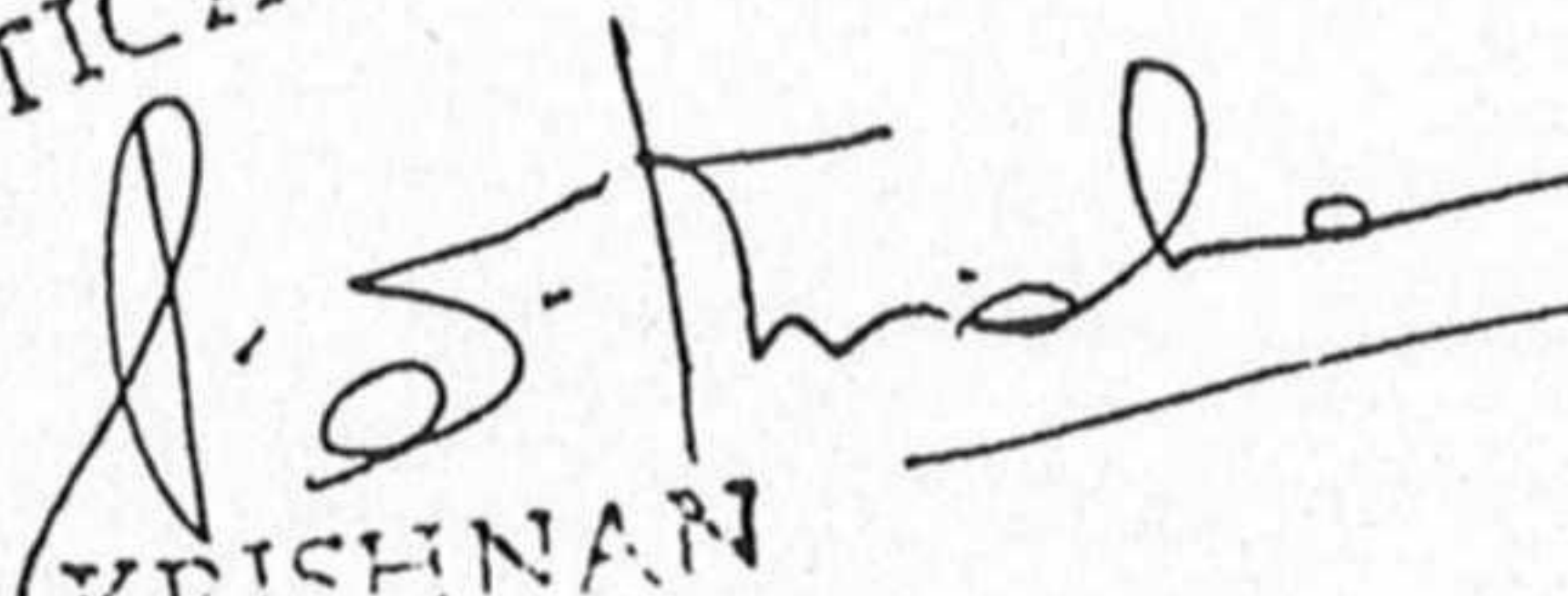
14. On the basis of the above material & evidence the Bench finds that "Patwa, Patuwa, Pathar" castes/communities are socially backward. The occupation on which the members of the castes/ communities mainly depend for livelihood is "Braid and silk fringe makers" being artisanal in nature, has also been confirmed in ethnographic literatures. According to Crooke a small section of the Patwa caste belong to Agarwala, Deobansi, Kharwar, Kharewal or Khandelwala who belong to trading Community or Rajput Community the occupation of which is totally different from artisanal occupation apparently belong to a different Social group i.e. different from them who are patwas by caste vis-a-vis those who avail of the surname of Patwa and are Patwa by Caste than who use their surname. As such the Bench finds that "Patwa, Patua, Pathar" merits inclusion in the Central list of Backward Classes excluding those social groups who are Patwas by name and not by caste Patwas be included in the Central List of Backward Classes at Sl.No.60 as follows:-

"60 Patwa, Patua, Pathar (excluding Agarwala, Deobansi, Kharewal, or Khandelwal who are sub-castes of Baniya and Khawar claim to the rank of Rajputs)."


19.06.98
(Sahu Akshaya Bhai)
Member


17/4
(Justice P.K. Shyamsunder)
Chairperson

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Member
Commission
for Backward Classes

V. Advice of the Commission

15. The Commission considered and agreed in full with the above Findings and decided to tender the following Advice to the Central Government under section 9(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993:-

"Patwa, Patua, Pathar" should be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Uttar Pradesh at entry No.60 as follows:-

"60 Patwa, Patua, Pathar" (excluding Agarwala, Deobansi, Kharewal, or Khandelwal who are sub-castes of Baniya and Kharwar claim to the rank of Rajput)".

P. K. Singh
17/6/98

Ashayer
19.06.98

Sanjay
2.7.98

Sanjay Singh
3.7.98

P. S. Mishra
3.7.98

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P. S. Mishra
Member
for Backward Classes