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

NCBC Advice No. 4 Bihar/96

25.6.1996

Dear Shri Saxena,

I am sending herewith the unanimous Advice of the National Commission for Backward Classes under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993 in respect of "Dangi" for including it in the Central List of Backward Classes for Bihar, for necessary action under Section 9(2) of the Act by the Central Government.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
P.S. Krishnan
(P.S. KRISHNAN)

To

Shri K.B. Saxena
Secretary
Ministry of Welfare
Shastri Bhavan
NEW DELHI

Encl: As stated.

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

BIHAR BENCH

REQUEST

Inclusion of Dangi caste/community in the Central OBC list for Bihar.

CASE

The Akhil Bharatiya Dangi Kshatriya Sangh, Gaya Branch through its President Shri Dwarika Prasad Dangi filed a petition dated 29.11.1993 praying that the DANGI caste may be included in the Central OBC list for Bihar. In fact, in course of Chairman's visit to Ranchi in November, 1993, the representatives of the community personally met him and handed over the aforesaid petition. It was pointed out that the DANGI community was included in the Backward Class list of the Kaka Kalelkar Report and is also entered at Sl.No. 32 of the Bihar list in the Mandal Commission Report.

It appears that the Dangi community was not included in the original State list of Backward Classes in Bihar and on that account it could not be included in the Central OBC list for Bihar when it was prepared in 1993. The representatives of the community filed a petition dated 20.3.1994 before the Bihar State Backward Classes Commission praying for inclusion of the community in the State list of OBCs and a copy of this petition was also sent to the NCBC with request that the community be included in the Central OBC list as well.

PUBLIC

HEARING &

EVIDENCE:

UNAUTHENTICATED

K. Sinha

The Two Member Bench for Bihar consisting of the Chairman Hon'ble Justice R.N. Prasad and Hon'ble Dr. D.S. Yadav, Member held its sitting on 18.9.1995 at Patna for hearing the case of this community as well as of some other castes. At the time of hearing the State of Bihar was represented by Shri U.N. Sinha, Vice

Chairman of the Reservation Implementation Committee and some State officials. On behalf of the community, Shri Dwarika Prasad Dangi aforesaid, Shri Balram Prasad Dangi, President of the Banka Branch, Shri Shyam Babu Singh Dangi, Secretary of the Saran Branch and others represented the community at the time of hearing.

The Members of the community have filled up the Questionnaire and through it supplied relevant information in respect of this community. It was submitted that the population of the Dangi community, which is spread all over Bihar, is approximately 30 lakhs and almost the entire population depends upon agriculture. A small proportion are marginal farmers who cultivate their own land while 60% of the population earn their livelihood by working as agricultural labourers and/or as other kinds of manual labourer. The marginal farmers, due to the smallness of their holdings, grow vegetables, miscellaneous crops and some cereals. Even the women and children go out for work as agricultural labourers for supplementing the income of the family. It is also pointed out that almost 99% of the members of the community live in Kachcha houses. According to 1992 estimates, the number of graduates is about 1000 and the number of matriculates about 800.

As regards representation in the services, the information supplied is as follows:-

Group-A	Class-1	:	4
Group-B	Class-2	:	20
Group-C	Class-3	:	75
Group-D	Class-4	:	105

These figures include Engineers, Doctors and Teachers engaged in Colleges. It was pointed out that no information is available about any person of the

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K. KRISHNAN
Member, Commission
for Backward Classes

community being in the Central services presumably because there are none.

It was submitted that in fact the members of the community are so backward that they were not able to represent their case before the Mungeri Lal Commission presumably because there was lack of any suitably educated person who could do so when the Mungeri Lal Commission was making its inquiry in the State of Bihar. As such this community was not included in the Mungeri Lal Commission Report. The justness of the claim of this community appears to have been recognised as the Bihar State Backward Classes Commission made a recommendation to the Govt of Bihar and on the basis of this Advice the latter included the Dangi caste at Sl.No.37 Schedule-2 of the Bihar State Backward Classes list by making an Amendment in the Bihar Reservation of vacancies in posts and services Act (Notification issued in the Gazette of 7th August 1995).

It was submitted that there can be no doubt about the extreme backwardness of this community as even in the Kaka Kalelkar Report this community has been included in the Backward Classes list not only for Bihar but also other States like Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Old Bhopal and Vindhya Pradesh which now form part of Madhya Pradesh. In the Mandal Report list for Bihar it stands included at Sl.No.32. It was submitted that unfortunate though it is, this community is backward not only in Bihar but in several other States and this is reflected by its inclusion in the Backward Class list for Madhya Pradesh and Punjab in the Mandal Commission Report. It was further pointed out that in the political field, its only representation is through one MP(LS) and it has no representative either in the Vidhan Sabha or the Vidhan Parishad in Bihar and no Member of this community is holding any important post in any of the political parties. No member of this

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Commission
Backward Classes

community has been able to get into any Class-1 services of the centre or in the higher Judiciary.

At the time of hearing, some members of the KUSHWAHA and KOERI communities appeared before the Bench and while accepting that the DANGI people belong to the Backward Class group, they submitted that they are part of the KUSHWAHA/KOERI community and therefore they should be included under the same entry as the KUSHWAHA & KOERI communities in the Backward Classes list and not under a separate entry. Petitions to this effect were filed on behalf of Akhil Bharatiya Kshtriya Mahasabha and the Bihar Pradesh Kshtriya Mahasabha. Shri Shakuni Choudhry, MLA also appeared before the Bench and emphatically pressed that DANGI should be included under the same entry in which the KUSHWAHA/KOERI castes are listed. This was not only opposed but strongly resented by the representatives of DANGI community present at the time of hearing. The members of the DANGI community pointed out that this is a caste separate from the Kushwaha/Koeri castes and the fact that as far back as 1953 it was shown as a separate caste in the Kaka Kalelkar Report and has also been shown separately in the Mandal Commission Report fully supports this contention. The Members of the caste emphasised that this community has a historical background and its reference can be found in mythology and historical books. It was submitted that as far back as 1930, the Census Superintendent of Bihar and Orissa by letter No.I.E.1036-65/30 dated 10.12.1930 had instructed for listing this community in the Backward Classes group in course of the Census operation. The members of the community thus asserted that there is no basis for treating the DANGI caste as part of the KUSHWAHA/KOERI communities.

FINDINGS:

On a consideration of the relevant materials, the Bench is satisfied that the DANGI caste/community is a socially, educationally and economically backward

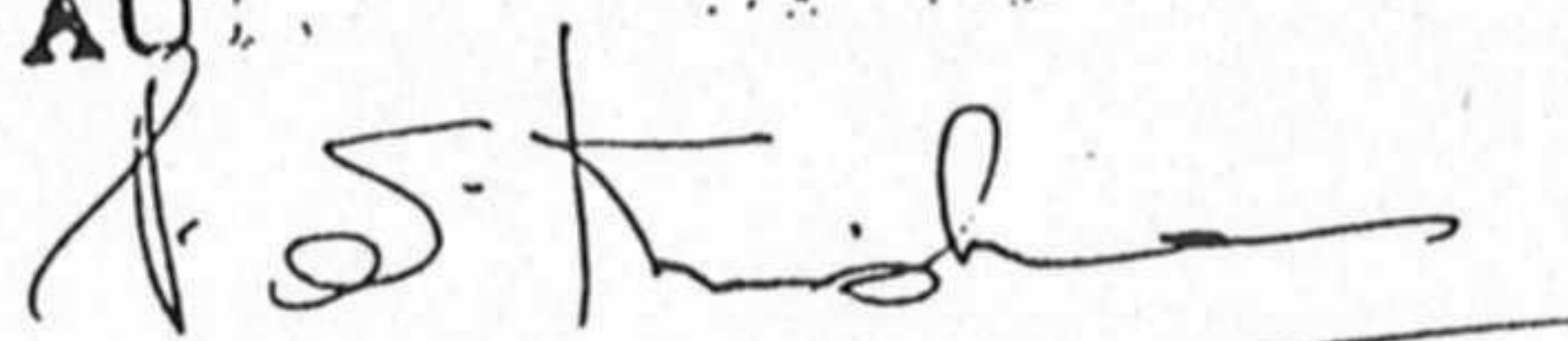
community even in the political field it does not seem to have any standing or representation. Further, its representation in the services is grossly inadequate. The Bench, therefore, recommends that the DANGI caste/community be included in the Central OBC list for Bihar.



(DR. D.S. YADAV)

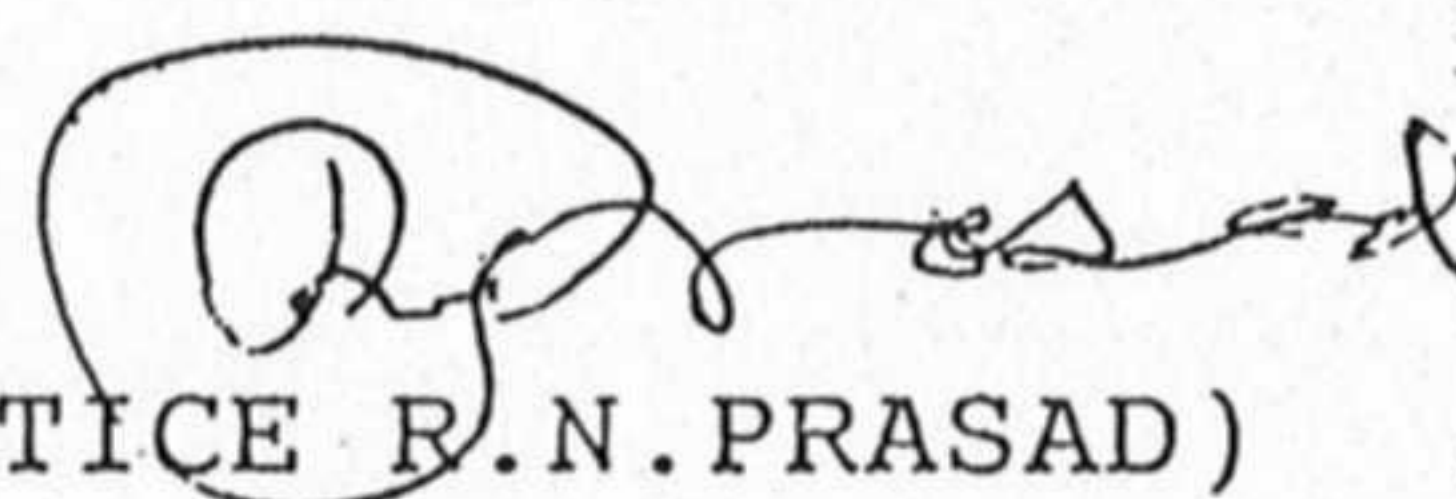
Member

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FOR THE CHAIRMAN

for the purpose of the Commission
for the purpose of the Commission



(JUSTICE R.N. PRASAD)

Chairman

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Advice No. BIHAR/4/96

The Commission considered the findings of the Bihar Bench in respect of the DANGI caste/community and being in full agreement tenders the following ADVICE to the Govt of India in terms of Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act 1993:-

The Caste DANGI be added in the Central list of Backward Classes for Bihar as given below:

"DANGI"

(PROF. D. L. SHETH)

Member

(P. S. KRISHNAN)

Member

(DR. D. S. YADAV)

Member

(DR. R. PRASANNAN)

Member

(JUSTICE R. N. PRASAD)

Chairman

Justice R. N. Prasad
Chairman
National Commission for
Backward Classes
New Delhi

P. S. KRISHNAN

Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes