

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Hon'ble Shri Justice M.N.Rao, Chairperson

Hon'ble Shri S.K.Kharventhan, Member

Hon'ble Shri Deepak Katole, Member

Hon'ble Dr. Shakeel uz-Zaman Ansari, Member

Case: Request for Inclusion of 'CHOWDRY' Caste/community in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Tamil Nadu.

I. Request:

1. The Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the NCBC for inclusion of '**Chowdry**' Caste/community in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Tamil Nadu.

II. PUBLIC HEARING

2. The Commission consisting of Justice Shri M. N. Rao, Hon'ble Chairperson, Shri S. K. Kharventhan, Hon'ble Member, Shri Deepak Katole, Hon'ble Member and Dr. Shakeel uz-Zaman Ansari, Hon'ble Member, held a Public Hearing on 05th & 06th September, 2011 in respect of the request of the State Government for inclusion of '**Chowdry**' Caste/community in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Tamil Nadu. At the Public Hearing, the State Government was represented by Shri G. Santhanam, Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Backward Classes,

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Most Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare Department and Shri J. Chandrakumar, Director, Backward Classes Welfare.

III Findings

3. There was no one to represent the community despite wide publicity given in various media by the State Government.
4. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has requested the NCBC to include 'Chowdry' in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Tamil Nadu. On the earlier occasion the NCBC in their Advice No. 105/TN/99 had rejected the request for inclusion of this community observing inter alia that "Chowdry" is a title suffixed in many parts of the country, especially in Northern India, by big landlords and Kammas in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Pondicherry. It is also a generic term used to address respectfully elders/ landlords/ big businessmen, etc. The NCBC referred to People of India, Vol. V, India's Communities, and observed that "Kammas are traditionally a land owning community who are mainly dependent on agriculture". The NCBC concluded that 'Chowdry' is only a title/surname adopted by some castes/ communities including forward castes and highly placed individuals. It is not a caste or social class".
5. The request of the State Government is to review the above findings of the NCBC and to include 'Chowdry' in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Tamil Nadu.
6. We are unable to accept the request for the reason that 'Chowdry' is not a Caste and it is not an identifiable caste.
7. There are no ground to review the earlier NCBC Advice and as such the request of the State Government is rejected.

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IV. ADVICE OF THE COMMISSION

8. The Commission in view of the above findings has decided to tender the following Advice to the Central Government under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act for necessary action under Section 9(2) of the NCBC Act:-

Request for inclusion of "**CHOWDRY**" caste/community be **rejected** as they are not socially and educationally backward community.



(Justice M. N. Rao)

Chairperson



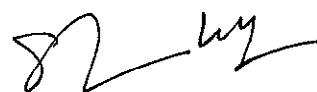
(S. K. Kharventhan)

Member



(Deepak Katole)

Member



(Dr. Shakeel uz-Zaman Ansari)

Member

AUTHENTICATED



National Commission for Backward Classes
New Delhi