

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 'Moopar' caste/community as synonym of 'Kallan Mooppan or Kallan Moopar' caste/community in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Kerala.

I. Request:

1. The State Government of Kerala has recommended to the NCBC for inclusion of 'MOOPAR' caste/community in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Kerala.

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 in respect of the request of the State Government for inclusion of 'Moopar' caste in the Central List of OBCs for

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the State of Kerala on 15th May, 2012. At the Public Hearing, the State Government was represented by Shri V.R. Joshi, Director, Directorate of Backward Communities Development Department, Government of Kerala and Smt. Sucy Eapen, Registrar, Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes.

III Findings

3. The caste in question 'MOOPAR' was included in the State List of Backward Classes at entry No. 72. This was done by the State Government on the basis of the report of the Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes which in turn, apart from the investigation conducted by it, relied upon the report of Shri L.K. Anantha Krishna Iyer, The Tribes and Castes of Cochin (Vol. I).
4. During the time of Public Hearing some of the representatives of the community viz. (1) Shri K.M. Narayanan Kutty (2) K.K. Suresh, (3) P.C. Janardhanan (4) K. Sajeev Kumar and (5) Shri K.P. Sankara Narayanan were present before the Commission and stated that the community is socially and educationally backward and its representation in public services is very inadequate.
5. We have considered the evidence as well as the Ethnographic Account. The total population of this community in the region is about 6000 (six thousand). The Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes in its report in para 11 recorded a finding that "it is economically quite backward, with a poor resource base". Further in para 12 the State Commission has recorded a finding that "Moopars are Socially backward, its profession being analogous to that of a carpenter or blacksmith (asari, kollan) whose community is already included in the OBC List for reservation in public

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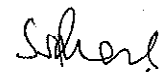
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service being associated with the construction of temples or other religious buildings. The correct position therefore seems to be that the occupation of Mooppars did not confer on them any special social status or respectability".

6. The main profession of the community being stone carpentry and the findings recorded by the State Commission for Backward Classes after an exhaustive enquiry and also the reliance placed by it upon the report of the Anantha Krishna Iyer International Centre for Anthropological Studies (AICAS), Palghat clearly indicate the social backwardness of this community and its inadequate representation in public services. The parameters for inclusion of a caste in the List of Backward Classes as laid down by the Supreme Court in Indra Sawhney case (1992) Supp. 3 SCC 217 are fully satisfied in the present case.

7. We, therefore, recommend that the caste/community 'Moopar' be included in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Kerala.

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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:-

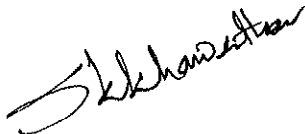
"The caste/community '**MOOPAR**' be included at Entry No. 79 in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Kerala as follows:

"79. Moopar (मुप्पर) or Kallan Mooppan or Kallan Mooppar"



(Justice M. N. Rao)

Chairperson



(S. K. Kharventhan)

Member



(Deepak Katole)

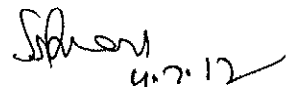
Member



(Dr. Shakeel uz-Zaman Ansari)

Member

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