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भारत सरकार
नई दिल्ली - 110 066
MEMBER-SECRETARY
NATIONAL COMMISSION
FOR BACKWARD CLASSES
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NEW DELHI - 110 066

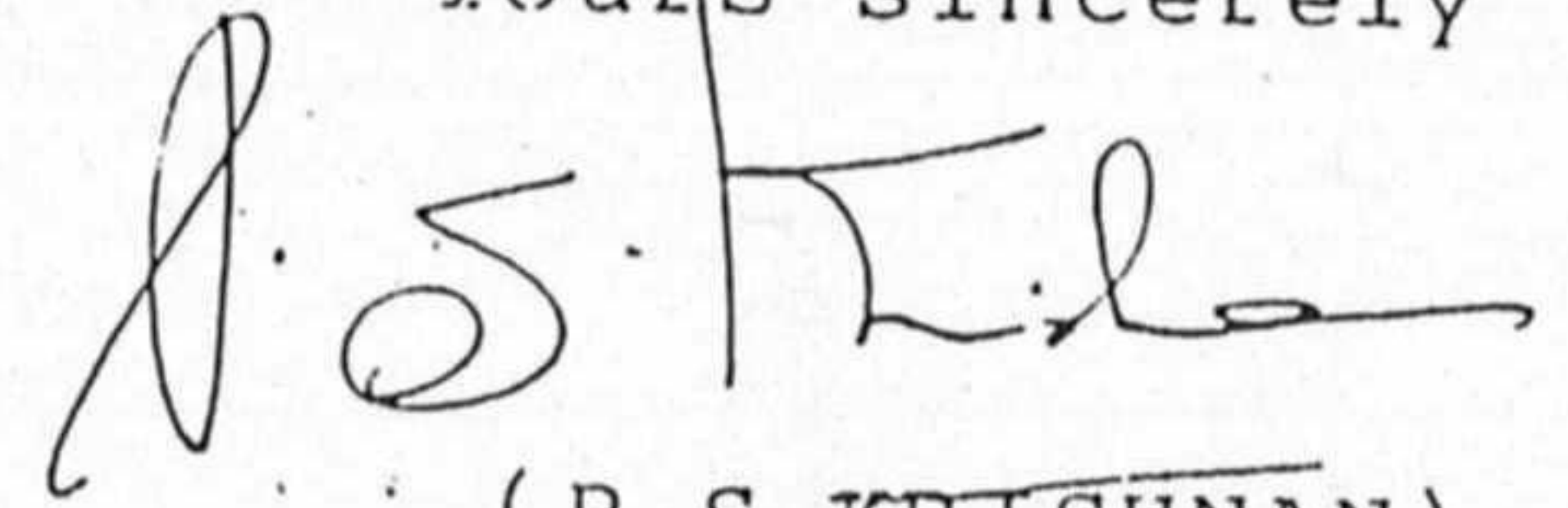
NCBC Advice No. Karnataka 105/98

30. 11. 1998

Dear Shri Manavalan,

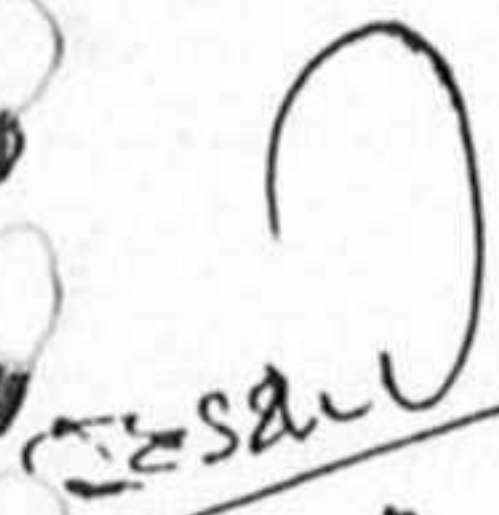
I am sending herewith the Advice of the National Commission for Backward Classes under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act for the Rejection of the Request for Inclusion of 'Poladavaru' caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka, duly authenticated, for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the Act.

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


30/11/98

c/c

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Karnataka Bench

Findings

Per Shri Justice P.K. Shyamsundar, Chairperson

Case: Request for Inclusion of "**Poladavaru**" caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka.

This case arises from the Request received by this Commission from Dakshina Kannada Jilla Hindulida Jathigala Vokkuta organisation, Mangalore for Inclusion of "Poladavaru caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes.

2. The two-Member Karnataka Bench of the Commission, consisting of Shri Justice P.K. Shyamsundar, Hon'ble Chairperson and Shri P.S. Krishnan, Hon'ble Member-Secretary, held Public hearings at Banaglore on 28.10.97. Despite repeated issue of notices, neither the applicant nor any other representative of the "Poladavaru" caste/community appeared before the Bench on 28.10.97. No one from the community appeared before the Bench during the Public Hearing held earlier on 20.05.97.

III. Facts

3. Although we had listed this case for consideration on more than one occasion, there was no response from the community as their representatives failed to appear before the Bench on both the occasions. Their absence was keenly felt as there was not much material in support of the claim for inclusion of

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[Signature]

this community of "Poladavaru" in the Central List of Backward Classes. But, however, it transpires from the Ethnographic literature ("Castes & Tribes of Southern India" -Vol-I by Thurston and Rangachari) that the caste Poladavaru is treated as a synonym of another caste known as Gattis. The learned author says:

"Gatti - A small caste of cultivators, found chiefly near Kumbala and Someswara in the Kasaragod taluk of South Canara. **Other names for the caste are Poladava and Holadava**, both signifying men of the field. Like the Bants, they follow the aliya santana law of inheritance (in the female line), have exogamous septs or balis, and, on the day of the final death ceremonies, construct car-like structures, if the deceased was an important personage in the community. The Bants and Gattis interdine, but do not intermarry. The headman of the Gattis is called Gurikara. The God of the Someswara temple is regarded as the caste deity, and every family has to pay an annual fee of four annas to this temple. Failure to do so would entail excommunication."

4. From the foregoing, it transpires that Gattis are also called as Poladava and Holadava both signifying men of the field. Regard being had to the certified status of Poladavaru community akin to that of Gatti community, which is on par with the socially and educationally advanced community of Bants of South Canara, there is little reason for assigning a Backward Class tag to this community as rightly held by the Chinnappa Reddy Commission, which summed up its observations regarding Gattis as follows:

"Gatti is a small community with a population of 3,617 (0.0082%) principally engaged in agriculture. The community was not included among backward classes either by the Havanur Commission or by the Venkata Swamy Commission. Their SSLC appeared and passed percentage were 1.7970 and 1.3888, more than double the State average. They were able to secure 3

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P. S. ...
Member ...
Backward Classes

admissions into the professional and post-graduate institutions and one post prior to 1986 and none after 1986. There does not appear to be sufficient justification to include them among the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes."

IV. Findings

5. We therefore conclude from the above materials that "Polavadaru" is a caste of cultivators of South Canara, whose social status is on par with Gattis, and Bunts. Therefore, Poladavaru cannot be considered a Socially Backward caste/community. The Inclusion of 'Gatti' in the Central List of Backward Classes cannot be a ground for inclusion of 'Polavadaru' because 'Gatti' is found to have been included in the Central List of 1993 solely on the ground of Commonality i.e. of castes found both in the State List and the Mandal List. As a matter of fact, the question whether continuance of caste like Gatti and others of the same ilk in the Central List of Backward Classes may have to be reviewed on a future occasion u/s 11 of the Act as and when a complaint of over-inclusion is made to this Commission. But be that as it may, as of now the claim for inclusion of Poladavaru in the Central List of Backward Classes is totally tenuous notwithstanding the fact that Gatti Community has been anointed with the Backward Class status without any justification as mentioned earlier and therefore is not a ground to induct Poladavaru into the Central List of Backward Classes. In that view of the matter, we are dissuaded from upholding the claim for inclusion of "Poladavaru" caste in the Central List of Backward Classes as it is not found to be Socially and Educationally Backward caste. Govt. is advised to reject the claim in question.

* File signed
26.11.98

J. S. Thidma
27.11.98

NOTIFIED

J. S. Thidma
P. S. THIDMA
Member, Commission
National Backward Classes

IV. Advice of the Commission

6. The Commission considered and agreed in full with the above Findings of the Karnataka Bench and decided to tender the following Advice to the Central Government under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act 1993 for action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the Act:-

The Request for Inclusion of "**Poladavaru**" caste/community in the Central List of Backward Classes for Karnataka be **rejected** as it is **not a Socially Backward** caste/community.

* *P. S. Krishnan* 22.11.98
Shri Navtej Puadhi 27.11.98
Shri Navtej Puadhi 27.11.98
Shri Navtej Puadhi 27.11.98

Note: On account of the unfortunate demise of one of the Members Shri Navtej Puadhi on 16.08.98, 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

AUTHENTICATED

P. S. Krishnan
P. S. KRISHNAN
Member
National Commission
for Backward Classes