

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Justice M. N. Rao, Chairperson

Shri. S. K. Kharventhan, Member

Shri. Deepak Katole, Member

Smt. Chitra Chopra, Member Secretary

Case: Request for Inclusion of "KHATRI, KSHATRIYA as synonyms of Patkar" in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for State of Maharashtra.

I. Request:

1. The Government of Maharashtra has requested the NCBC for inclusion of "KHATRI, KSHATRIYA as synonyms of Patkar" caste/community in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Maharashtra. The same was considered by the NCBC during the Public Hearing held at Mumbai on the 30th May & 1st June 2011.

II. Findings:

2. The State Government of Maharashtra has requested the NCBC for inclusion of 'KHATRI, KSHATRIYA' as synonyms of Patkar in the

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Central List of OBCs for the State of Maharashtra. In the Central List of OBCs for the State of Maharashtra, the community mentioned at Sl.No. 112 is Patkar.

3. As per the Ethnographic Account (People of India All Communities Pages 2822-2823) the word PATKAR was derived from Pattu meaning silk and they are originally from Andhra Pradesh. Their main traditional occupation is silk weaving and some of them also are in business, industry, government service and self employment. Their caste association is called 'Somavanshiya Sahasrarjun Kshatriya Samaj'.

4. At the public hearing, no evidence was placed before us by the State Government as to how 'Khatri' and 'Kshatriya' can be treated as synonyms of Patkar. The caste profession of Khatri and Kshatriya is not silk weaving. The word Kshatriya simpliciter does not convey the meaning that its members are weavers. Kshatriyas always identified themselves as ruling class and in the social order they occupy a high place next only to Brahmins. When that being the reality, according to us, it will be an act of injustice if dominant castes like Khatri and Kshatriya are shown as synonyms of Patkar for conferring benefits under Article 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution of India on them. In the circumstances, the request of the State Government is rejected.

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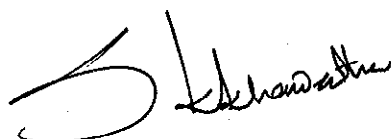
III. Advice of the Commission

5. The Commission considered all the aspects and decided to tender the following advice to the Central Government under Section 9 (1) of the NCBC Act, for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9 (2) of the NCBC Act:-

Request for inclusion of "Khatri, Kshatriya as synonyms of Patkar" be rejected.


19.7.11

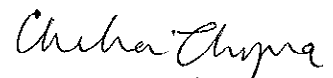
(Justice M. N. Rao)
Chairperson



(S. K. Kharventhan)
Member



(Deepak Katole)
Member



(Smt. Chitra Chopra)
Member-Secretary

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