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सदस्य सचिव
राष्ट्रीय पिछड़ा वर्ग आयोग

भारत सरकार
त्रिकूट-१, भीकाजी कामा प्लेस, नई दिल्ली - ११० ०६६

Member Secretary
National Commission for Backward Classes
Government of India
Trikoot - 1, Bhikaiji Cama Place, New Delhi - 110 066

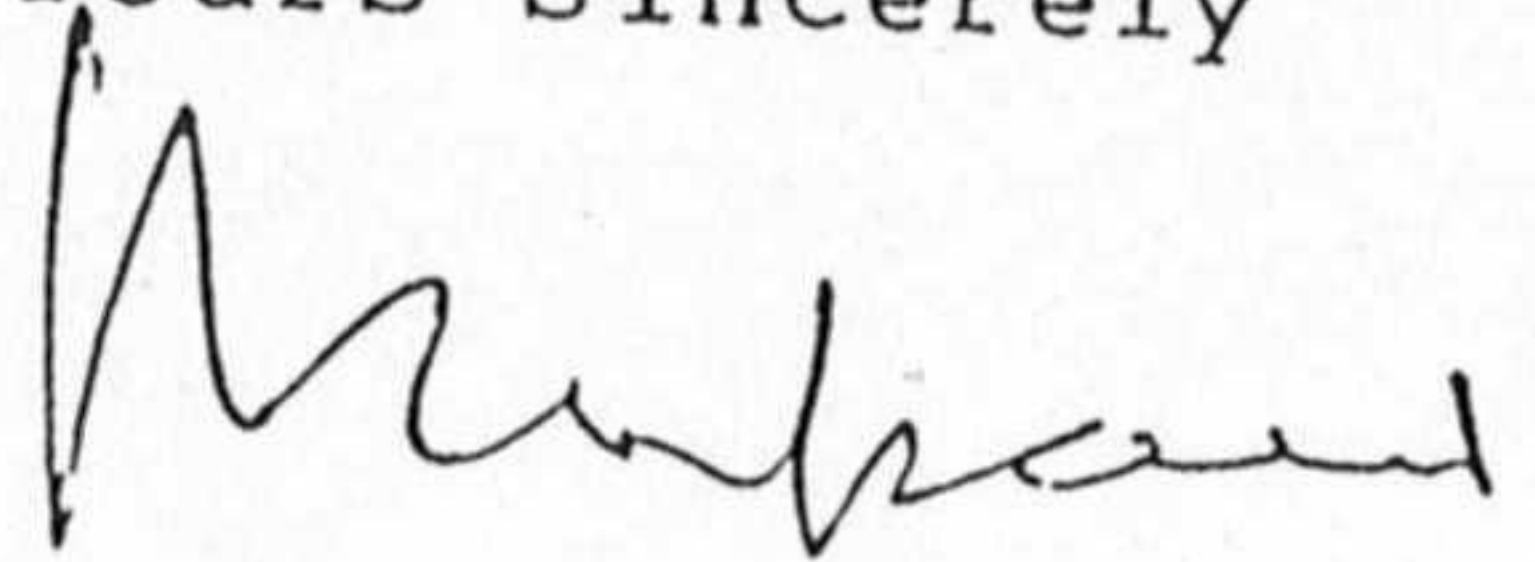
NCBC Advice No. Chandigarh 7/2001

19. 9. 2001

Dear Smt. Asha Das,

I am sending herewith the advice of the National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993, for inclusion of 'Yadav/Ahir' as synonyms of "Gawala/Gwala/Gowala/Gowale/Gawla" in the Central list of backward classes for the Union Territory of Chandigarh, duly authenticated, for necessary action by the Central government under Section 9(2) of the Act.

Yours sincerely


(C. T. Benjamin)

Mrs. Asha Das
Secretary to Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Shastri Bhavan
NEW DELHI 110 001

Encl: As stated

NCBC/Advice No. 7 /Chandigarh/2001

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Chandigarh Bench

Findings

Case:- Request for inclusion of "Yadav/Ahir" caste/ community in the Central list of Backward Classes for the U.T. of Chandigarh.

I. Request

1. This case arises from the Requests received in this Commission from Shri Vijay Singh Yadav, President and Shri Sukhbir singh Yadav, Gen.Secretary, Yadav Sabha, Chandigarh, Yadav Bhawan, Sector -12, Panchkula, Chandigarh for inclusion of "Yadav/Ahir" in the Central list of Backward Classes for the U.T. of Chandigarh..

II. Public Hearing

2. A three-Member Bench of the Commission, consisting of Justice B.L.Yadav, Hon'ble Chairperson, Shri M.S.Matharoo and Smt. Neera Shastri Hon'ble Members, held a Public Hearing at Chandigarh regarding the request received in this Commission from/on behalf of this caste/community, on 11th June 2001. At the Public Hearing the U.T. Government was represented by Shri G.K.Marwah, Secretary & Smt. Madhavi Kataria, Director, Department of Social Welfare, Govt.of Chandigarh and Shri M.Ramshekhar, Deputy Commissioner U.T. of Chandigarh. The caste/community was represented by Shri Vijay Singh Yadav, President, Shri Sukhbir Singh Yadav, Gen.Secretary, 'Yadav Sabha', Chandigarh; Shri R.P.Yadav President and Shri Ram Avtar Yadav, Gen. Secretary 'Yadav Samaj kalyan Sabha', Chandigarh and other members of the community.

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III Facts

3. The relevant entries in different lists are as follows:-

U.T. list:-

"36- Gawla/ Gawala, Gowal~~a~~Gowala" —

Mandal list:-

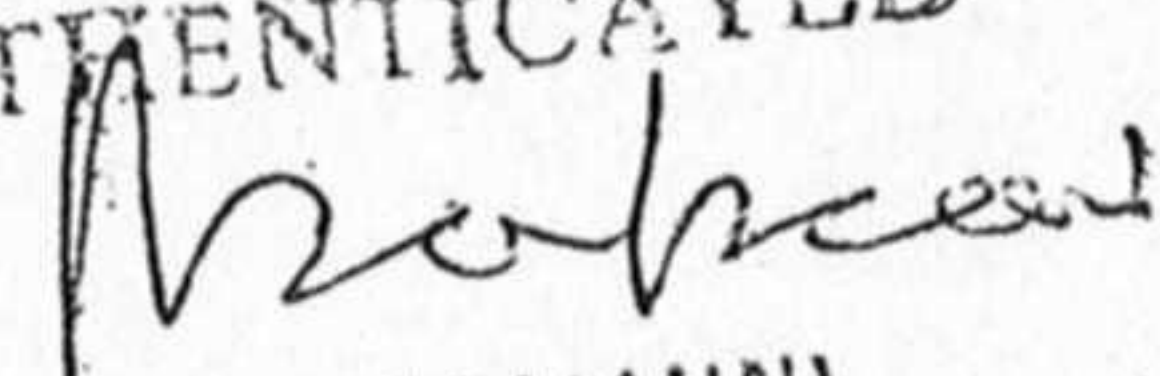
'3-Ahir, Yadav, Gwala'

Central list-

'24-Gawala/Gwala/Gowala/Gowale/Gawla'

4. The information furnished by 'Yadav Sabha' in the NCBC's questionnaire is as follows:-

- i) The caste/community is known as Yadav/Ahir and other sub-castes/sub-communities/synonyms are Gawala/Gop/Gopi etc.
- ii) The population of the caste/community in the U.T. is about 20,000 mostly residing in slum areas.
- iii) The caste/community is listed in the Central list as a backward class for the states of U.P., Haryana, Rajasthan & Bihar.
- iv) They are Hindu by Religion and it is a socially backward caste/community.
- v) Member of the caste/community mainly work for livelihood as factory workers/labourers/ ricksaw puller/ rehri walas etc.
- vi) Ninety nine percent people of the caste/community are landless manual labourers.
- vii) Literacy rate of the caste/community as well as total literacy rate of the U.T. is 50%.
- viii) Seventy percent population of the caste/community live in kachha houses and 30% people in pucca house

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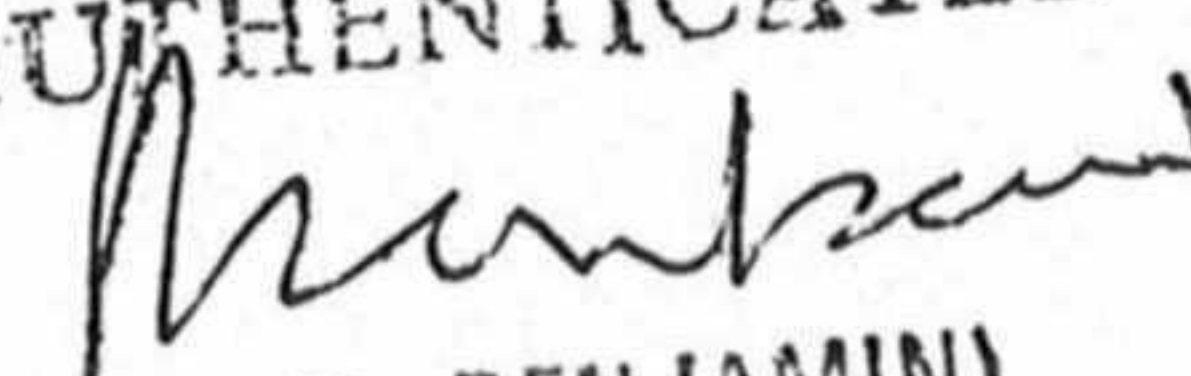
ix) The caste community is backward due to social and economic reasons .

5. During the public hearing the request makers and other members of the caste community told the Bench that they have migrated from the states of U.P., Bihar, Haryana and Rajasthan in search for livelihood. They also informed that Mali, Saini, Gurjars are at higher social level which have already been included in the Central list of BCs for the U.T. of Chandigarh. Fifty percent people are literates, 30% are matriculates and 10% are graduates among them while the female members of the caste/community are mostly illiterates. Social status of the caste/community is very low. The caste/community has applied for its inclusion in the U.T. List of BCs in the year of 1998. —

6 H.A. Rose in 'Glossary of the Tribes and Castes of the Punjab and North- West Frontier Province', (Vol-II, 1919, Asian Educational Services, New Delhi) describes 'Ahir' as "The name Ahir is doubtless derived from the Sanskrit abhira, a milkman, but various other folk etymologies are current.----- They are chiefly found in the south of Delhi, Gurgaon, and Rohtak and the Phulkian States bordering upon these districts and in this limited tract they form a considerable proportion of the whole population. ----- They are divided into three khanps or sub-castes (1) the Nandbansi, who call themselves the offspring of Nanda, the foster-father of Sri Krishna. (2) the Jadubansi, who claim to be decendants of the Yadu, a nomadic race. (3) the Gualbansi, who say that they are descended from the Guala or 'herdsman' dynasty and the Gopis, who danced with the god Krishna in the woods of Bindraban and Gokul. "

7. In 'People of India; National Series, India's Communities' (Anthropological Survey of India, Oxford University Press, 1998 Vol- IV) 'Ahir' caste/community is described as under:

"A community distributed all over India, the Ahir are variously known as Yadav, Goala, Gouli, etc. According to the census, the population of the Ahar, Ahir,

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Gopi, Goshi, Goala, Gowari, Gaura, Kavundan and Idaiyan, the pastoral castes, was 14,170,032. The Ahir places themselves in the middle of the local social hierarchy, below the Brahman and Rajput.-----In Haryana, the Ahir also known as Yadav, Hir, Rao or Gwala, use Rao Saheb as a title and trace their origin to lord Krishna. Ahir is considered to be the corrupt name of Abhira, by which name they have been referred to in inscriptions. ----- Agriculture and animal husbandry are the main occupations of the Ahir. They have a community association called the Yadav Maha Sabha, which works for the welfare of the community. They are Hindu and have been influenced by the Arya Samaj. ----- The Ahir or Gwala in Punjab migrated from Uttar Pradesh during the British period and after Independence.

8. Denzil Ibbetson in 'Punjab Castes', Published by Low price Publications, Delhi Reprinted in 1993, "The Ahir (caste No. 27)- The Ahirs are properly a pastoral caste, their name being derived from the Sanskrit Abhira, or "milkman". But in Punjab they are now almost exclusively agricultural, and stand in quite the first rank as husbandmen, being as good as the Kamboh and somewhat superior to the Jat. They are of the same social standing as the Jat and Gurjar, who will eat and smoke with them; but they do not seem ever to have been, at any rate within recent times, the dominant race in any considerable tract."

IV. Findings

9. From the above evidences and facts, the bench came to the findings that Yadav/Ahir caste/community, are also known as 'Gawala/Gwala/Gowala/Gowale/Gawla'. The caste/community is in terms of the caste system, identified/linked with agriculture and animal husbandry. The bench found that people of the caste/community are migrated from U.P., Bihar, Haryana

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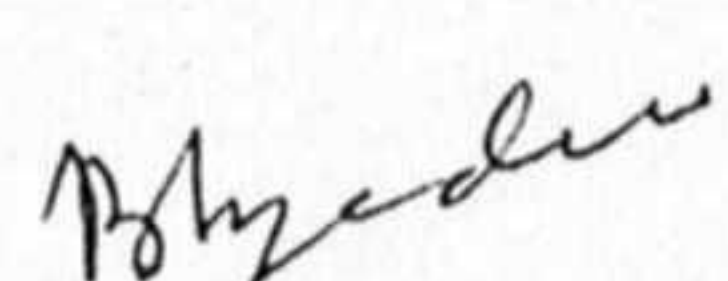
Member Secretary

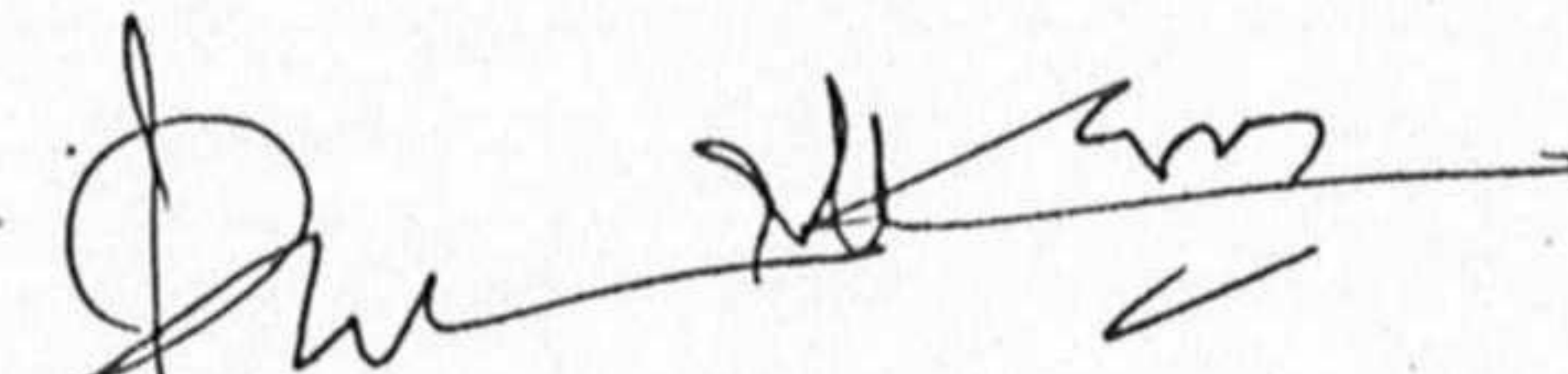
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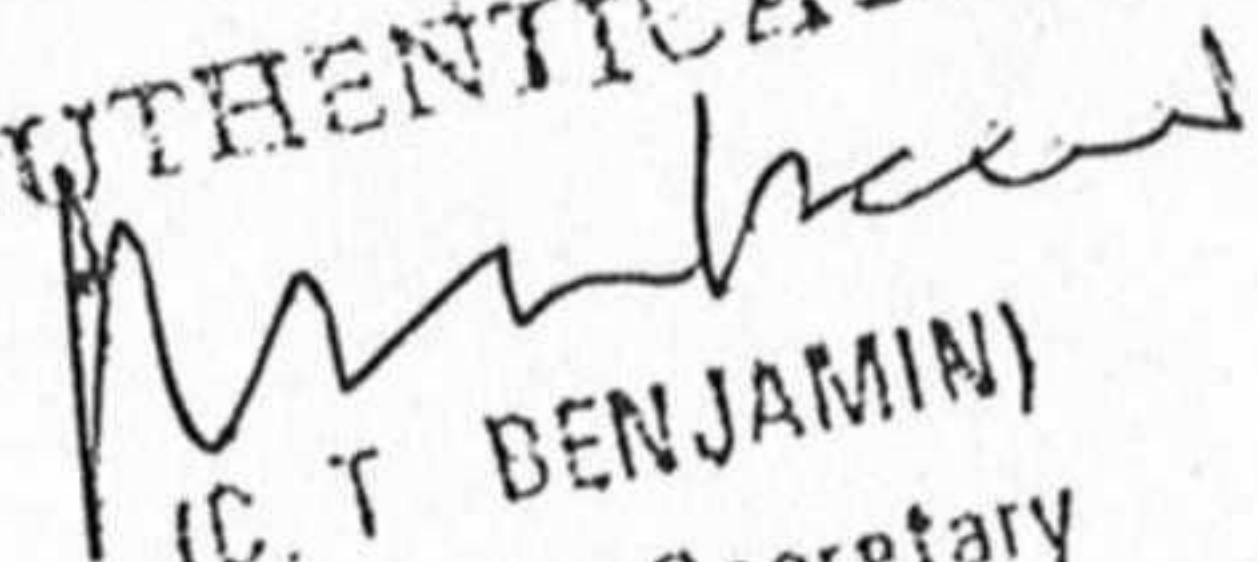
and Rajasthan in search of livelihood and their occupation is non-agricultural and involves manual labour. The bench thus concluded that the Yadav/Ahir, is a socially backward caste/community and therefore should be included in the Central list of BCs for U.T. of Chandigarh at entry no. 24 as follows:

'24 Gawala/Gwala/Gowala/Gowale/Gawla/Yadav/Ahir"


(B.L. Yadav)


(M.S. Matharoo)


(Neera Shastri)

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V. Advice of the Commission

10. The commission considered and agreed in full with the above Findings of the Delhi 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.

Yadav/Ahir be included in the Central list of BCs for the U.T. of Chandigarh along with Gawala/Gwala/Gowala/Gowale/Gawla at entry no 24 as follows:-

"24 Gawala/Gwala/Gowala/Gowale/Gawla/Yadav/Ahir"

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[Signature]
(C. T. BENJAMIN)
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