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By Hand

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

DO NCBC Advice No.11-13 Tripura/98

03. 07. 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 inclusion of "Rai(Oriya)", "Raily", and "Telenga" castes/communities in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tripura, for necessary action by the Central Government under Section 9(2) of the Act.

2. With this, Advices on 268 castes/sub-castes/communities etc. have been tendered to the Government by the NCBC, after its reconstitution in 1997, of which 265 are still pending with the Government for notification.

Best wishes,

Yours sincerely

(P.S. KRISHNAN)

Shi D.K. Manavalan
Secretary to Govt. of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
Shastri Bhavan
NEW DELHI

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

Tripura Bench

Findings

Per Shri Justice P.K. Shyamsundar, Chairperson

Case: Request for Inclusion of "Rai (Oriya), Raily, Telenga" castes/communities in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tripura.

I. Request

This case arises from the Request received in this Commission from the State Government of Tripura and OBC Federation of Tripura for inclusion of "Rai (Oriya), Raily, Telenga" castes/communities in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tripura.

II. Public Hearing

2. The two-Member Tripura Bench of the Commission consisting of Justice P.K. Shyamsundar, Hon'ble Chairperson and Shri P.S. Krishnan, Hon'ble Member-Secretary, NCBC held a Public Hearing in respect of this Request at Agartala on 06.04.98. At the Public Hearing the State Government was represented by Shri S.C. Das, Secretary SC & ST Welfare Department and other officials. Shri K.R. Das, Chairperson, Shri S. Bhowmik, Member-Secretary and Shri Matilal Sarkar, Member of Tripura State Backward Classes Commission were also present at the Public Hearing who gave valuable information. No members from the communities represented at the hearing. Shri Bibakananda Bhowmik, Joint Convenor, Tripura State OBC Sangam Committee represented on behalf of the communities.

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Member Secretary
National Commission
for Backward Classes

III. Facts

3. Rai (Oriya), Raily and Telenga castes/communities are included in the State List as follows:

"40. Rai (Oriya)"

"41. Raily"

"43. Telenga"

But these castes/communities are not included in the Mandal List as well as in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tripura

4. The Questionnaire filled up by the State Government states that these castes are considered as Backward because of their low social position in the traditional caste hierarchy of Hindu Society and suffer disabilities like absence of free access to public utilities and social discrimination and lack of education resulting in inadequate or no representation in services. Nearly 20% of the members of the caste are literate. Most of the members of these castes are engaged as tea garden labourers for their livelihood. Few of them are also engaged in manual labour and agricultural labour. The members of the Rai (Oriya), Raily and Telenga castes are scattered all over the Tripura State but a larger population is concentrated in West Tripura District.

5. At the hearing none of the community members were present. But the common spokesman Shri Bibakanad Bhowmik, represented on behalf of the Rai, Raily and Telengas. According to him, people of these communities were all tea garden labourers. We were told that the absence of the communities' members at the hearing was due to their backward state and the fact that they work in tea gardens and otherwise as labourers in other arenas on daily wages limited their right to appear and to make submission at the public hearing because it would result in loss of a day's wage. Some discussion followed touching the name "Rai" while it did appear to us to be some kind of a title, Shri Bhowmik who appeared to be quite knowledgeable in the matter told us that Rai (Oriya) is not a title or surname but a proper caste name and that other Oriyas with the Surname Rai are not found in the State of Tripura and thus there is little scope for any misuse if the caste Rai (Oriya) is included in the list of Backward Classes for Tripura. We were

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assured that there is no need for apprehensions in this regard, having regard to the machinery evolved by the Tripura State for preventing issue of false certificates.

IV. Findings

6. The above explanation of the State Government surely allays our fears about caste certificates being misused and that the same should not be a ground on which entry into the Backward Classes list of a caste which otherwise socially and educationally backward can possibly be denied. In this case we do not have hesitation to hold that this community is socially and educationally backward have remained so because they are confined to Tea gardens wherein they work for a living. It, therefore, seems to us that the Rai, Raily, and Telenga are all belonging to the same cluster could therefore be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tripura as follows:

"38. Rai(oriya)"

"39. Raily "

"40. Telenga."

M. S. G. S. S. S.
14-6-98

P. S. Krishnan
17.6.98

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

V. Advice of the Commission

7. The Commission considered and agreed in full with the above Findings of the Tripura 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:-

“Rai(Oriya), Raily and Telenga as socially and educationally backward castes/communities be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Tripura as given below :

“38. Rai (Oriya)”

“39. Raily”

“40. Telenga”

P. b. ~~reversus~~
11.6.70 P. J. Kildner

17.6.98

Lavtepalli
2.7.98

Kshaya
19.06.98

3/7/98

AUTHENTICATED
 R. O.

P. S. KRISHNAN
Member
National Commission
for Backward Classes