

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

Case: Request for Inclusion of caste / community "KILLIKYATA" as a synonym of BUDUBUDUKI in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Karnataka.

I. Request:

1. National Commission for Backward Classes (NCBC) in its VIth/32nd Meeting held on the 23rd & 24th January, 2013 considered the request of the Government of Karnataka for the inclusion of 'KILLIKYATA' caste / community as a synonym of 'BUDUBUDUKI' in the Central List of Other Backward Classes (OBC) for the State of Karnataka.

II Findings

2. NCBC in the public hearing held in Bangalore on 14th and 15th March, 2012 has taken up for consideration the request of the State Government for inclusion of 'KILLIKYATA' caste as synonym of 'BUDUBUDUKI' caste in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Karnataka.

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3. In the State List of Backward Classes under Category I at Sl.No.10 one of the communities mentioned is Budubuduki. Killikyata community is mentioned at the same Sl.No.10 at (i). When a member of the public pointed out to NCBC that 'KILLIKYATA' caste / community has been deleted from the List of Backward Classes by G.O. No. SWL 12 THS 77 dated 23-1-1978 as it was included in the List of Scheduled Castes, we referred to the list of Scheduled Castes and found that KILLIKYATA was not there. Because of this apparent confusion, we requested the State Government to clarify the matter.

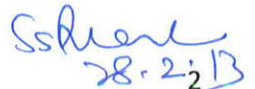
4. Clarification sought by the NCBC Reply given by the State Government
State Government may kindly clarify whether the caste "Killikyata" is in the List of Scheduled Caste or finds mentioned in the list of Backward Classes under Category-1

A. People of India, Karnataka by K.S. Singh, Part-1, Page no. 343 to 347.

Budbudki:

The "Budbudki" is a community of fortune-tellers and beggars, who originally come from the Maratha Country. They were nomads in the past. They are distributed throughout Karnataka and they are known as "Budbudki" or Arya joshi. Their mother tongue is Marathi. They also speak Kannada. They are non-vegetarians. They recognise the Varna system and claim Kshatriya Status. The community perception is

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rather low. The Brahman priests who officiates at the wedding ties the tali around the neck of bride. Now a days they cremate the dead and begging and fortune-telling has become secondary of occupation. The primary occupation of the "Budbudki" is selling of bronze utensils. Few of them own land, most of them are land less. Some of them are employed in Government Organisations. They are Hindus, they worship Ambabhavani, Yellamma, Shid-hoba and Kholapur Mahalakshmi. Navaratri is a major festival. They do not accept food from the Barbar, Agasa, Korcha and Dombar communities. They do not beg from Holey and Madiga. They accept food from Brahmin and Lingayat. They draw water from the village; they enter temples and panchayat ghars. Their children attend primary school but many drop out in middle school level. A few of them especially boys have obtained university degrees. The "Budbudki" avail modern medical facilities from

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nearby primary health centres.

B. People of India, Karnataka by
K.S. Singh, Part-3, Page no. 1303 to
1307

Sillekyatha / Killekyata:

“Sillekyatha” is also spelled as “Sillekyata”, are known by different name in different parts of Karnataka. In southern and Central parts of the State they are known as ‘Gombe Ramaru’ in addition to Sillekyata, while in the northern parts, the term “Killekyata” is used. Sillekyatha are Sillekyata means ‘mischievous’ because they entertain the public with pictures of comical characters. They are wandering beggars recruited from many castes notably Bagdi, Budbudki and Gondhali but the later castes are infact separate, endogamous groups, though they have similar customs and traditions. They had migrated from Maharashtra during the period of Shivaji to southern states, such as Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

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They are settled in Belgaum, Dharwad and Mandya districts. They speak Marathi and also Kannada with others, Script used is Kannada. Sillekyatha are non-vegetarians. Brahman priest conducts the wedding. Dead are cremated but burial is also resorted to. The traditional occupation was mainly to entertain the public with leather puppet shows based on Ramayana and Mahabharatha. They are Hindus. They accept water and cooked food from many communities. Public water sources like wells and ponds are shared by them. Boys study upto high school level, while girls study upto primary level. They drop out due to social and economic reasons. Many of them are too poor to save money.

Clarification:- In the Government Order No: SWL 12 TBS 77, Bangalore, Dated 23rd January 1978, Sillekyata / Kiilekyatha is deleted & finds place in the list of Scheduled Caste & Tribes under sub section (2) of section 1 of the

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scheduled caste & scheduled tribes orders (Amendment) Act, 1976 (108 of 1976) at Serial No. 96 as Sillekyathas.

5. In view of the clarification, it is clear that 'SILLEKYATA and KILLEKYATHA' castes/communities are one and the same and as 'Sillekyathas' is included at Sl.No.96 in the List of Scheduled Castes for the State of Karnataka, there is no need to consider the request of the State Government for modifying the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Karnataka. Therefore the request of the State Government for inclusion of 'KILLIKYATA' as a synonym of 'BUDUBUDUKI' caste / community in the Central List of Other Backward Classes for the State of Karnataka is rejected.

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III. ADVICE OF THE COMMISSION

6. The Commission in view of the above finding has decided to tender the following Advice to the Central Government under Section 9(1) of the NCBC Act, 1993 for necessary action under Section 9(2) of the NCBC Act:-

Request for inclusion of 'KILLIKYATA' as a synonym of 'BUDUBUDUKI' caste/community in the Central List of OBCs for the State of Karnataka be **rejected**.

(Justice M. N. Rao)

Chairperson

(S. K. Kharventhan)

Member

(Deepak Katole)

Member

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