



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Backward Classes Welfare - Inclusion of "Sengunthar" Community in the list of Other Backward Classes for reservation in Public service - advice of the KSCBC - accepted - orders issued.

SCHEDULED CASTES & SCH. TRIBES DEVELOPMENT (F) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 36/96/SCSTDD Thiruvananthapuram, Dated: 25-7-1996.

Read:- D.O. letter No. 1379/C1/94/KSCBC dated 30.11.1995 from the Member Secretary, Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes, Thiruvananthapuram.

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ORDER

Kerala Sengunthar Sangham, Kollengode Palakkad District submitted a Memorandum before the Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes requesting to include "Sengunthar" community in the state Other Backward Classes list along with "Kaikolan" and "Kerala Mudali" for reservation in Public Services. The Sangam claimed that Sengunthar, Kaikolan and Kerala Mudali are one and the same Tamil speaking linguistic minority community living in Palakkad, Trichur and Malappuram Districts.

The Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes entrusted the Ananthakrishna Iyer International Centre for Anthropological Studies to conduct a detailed study about the backwardness of this community. The study revealed that Kerala Mudali has no connection with 'Kaikolan' and Sengunthar and also revealed that Sengunthar and Kaikolan are one and the same community.

The Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes examined the inclusion of Sengunthar as a backward class in the State Other Backward Classes list. The Commission considered the expert report of the Anantha Krishna Iyer International Centre for Anthropological Studies and examined seven witnesses. The Commission also perused all the secondary sources regarding the Sengunthar community and the supporting documents submitted by the witnesses.

All the evidences goes to show that socially the Sengunthar Community is not backward. Their temples, temple festivals, social customs, life cycle rituals caste position in relation to the untouchables, the social freedom, they enjoyed in the past all indicate that they belonged to upper status.

There was no social discrimination against them. There was no discrimination against them in the matter of admission to temples, schools and other public facilities. "Sengunthar" considered themselves as a higher caste. Educationally they are not very backward compared to other classes. Economically the Sengunthar cannot be considered as weak.

After considering the above points the Commission came to the conclusion that the Sengunthar Community is not socially backward and the Commission under section 9 (1) of the KSCBC Act 1993 (Act 11 of 1993) advised Government not to include Sengunthar Community in the State list of Other Backward Classes for reservation in Public Services. Government accepts the recommendation of the Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes and they order accordingly.

By Order of the Governor,

M.S. JOSEPH
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY.

To

✓ The Registrar, Kerala State Commission for Backward Classes,

Nagaparambil Building, Patton Palace P.O.,
Thiruvananthapuram.

The President, Kerala Sengunthar Sanghom,
H.O. South Pavadi, Kollencode P.O. Palakkad District.


The General Administration (SC) Department vide Item No. 58
dated 17.7.1996.

The C A to Principal Secretary.

The C A to Joint Secretary, Sch. Castes & Sch. Tribes
Development Department.

Private Secretary to Minister (B & SC)
SF.

Forwarded/ By Order


Section Officer