



DELHI VIDHAN SABHA

**Committee on the Welfare of
Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes
and Other Backward Classes**

(Fifth Report)

(Presented on 28 November, 2000)

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT
OLD SECRETARIAT, DELHI

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES / SCHEDULED
TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

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DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD
CLASSES

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

1.	Shri Moti Lal Bokolia	Chairman
2.	Shri Amrish Singh Gautam	Member
3.	Shri Mala Ram Gangwal	Member
4.	Shri Shadi Ram	Member
5.	Shri Sahab Singh Chauhan	Member
6.	Shri Sushil Chaudhary	Member
7.	Shri Ram Singh Netaji	Member

SECRETARIAT

1.	Shri S K Sharma	Secretary
2.	Shri Siddharath	Jt. Secretary(LA)
3.	Shri P N Sinha	Under Secretary(FC)

DELHI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

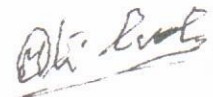
COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND
SCHEDULED TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

PREFACE

I, Motilal Bokolia, the Chairman of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes of Delhi Legislative Assembly having been authorised by the Committee to present this Report, do hereby present the 5th Report of the Committee.

The Committee appreciate the services of the officers and the staff of Assembly Secretariat for providing background material to the Committee and rendering assistance in the preparation of this Report.

The Committee adopted this Report at its meeting held on 17 November, 2000.



(MOTI LAL BOKOLIA)
CHAIRMAN

Dated: 17th Nov ., 2000

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF
SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED
TRIBES AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

REPORT

The Committee on the Welfare of SC., ST. and OBCs for the year 2000-2001 was constituted by the Hon'ble Speaker on 4.5.2000 under the provisions of Rule 228 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Delhi Legislative Assembly.

The main functions of the Committee are to examine various schemes being implemented by the Government for the welfare of SC/ST/OBCs and to review the progress and implementation of the welfare programmes and schemes and to suggest measures to the Government for their better implementation, besides deliberating the methods by which the benefits of these schemes and programmes could reach to the members of these communities and also to recommend to the Government the steps to be taken to improve the life style of the members of these classes in the shortest possible time.

The Committee in all had three meetings to examine the matter relating to issuance of caste certificates by the office of Divisional Commissioner. As a result of the decision taken at the first meeting a letter dated 9.5.2000 was sent to the divisionsl Commissioner informing him of the decision to examine the deptt. and to appear before the Committee to apprise the Committee of the procedure followed for issuance of caste certificates, to be held on 16.5.2000.

In meeting held on 16-5-2000 ADM (HQ) appeared and briefed the Committee on the general procedure being followed for issuance of caste certificates.

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The Committee was apprised that there were two types of Certificates issued by the office, the one for the original residents residing in Delhi prior to 1951 and the other which were made on the basis of certificates issued by other States. The ADM (HQ) agreed that there was delay in issuance of caste certificates on the basis of certificates issued by other States and the delay was due to verification of certificates issued by other States, which was mandatory. However, in case of certificates issued to original residents of Delhi residing prior to 1951, the time limit was 21 days from the date of application. The Committee was also informed that in view of huge inflow of applications, the work of issuance of caste certificates was decentralised and certificates were being issued by concerned Deputy Commissioner of Distt. On enquiry, the departmental representative could not explain the exact and detailed procedure and therefore the Committee interalia desired the following information :-

- a) Lists of Castes included for SCs/STs/OBCs by States or Centre ;
- b) Formalities required to be completed for issue of caste certificates ;
- c) The criteria for determining the creamy layer,
- d) List of cases (district wise) showing total applications received, cleared and certificates issued within the stipulated period of 21 days and applications pending since January, 2000.
- e) The orders/notifications etc., regulating issuance of domicile certificates and guidelines and procedure ;
- f) Whether MLAs can recommend, attest, verify the documents relating to caste certificates etc.,

The Committee gave considerable time to the Deptt. to furnish the replies but the Deptt. could furnish replies only to a few of questions.

The Committee in its next meeting held on 7.6.2000, expressed displeasure on the delay in submission of complete information. The Divisional Commissioner who appeared before the Committee ^{assured} timely submission of information in future. The Committee expressed concern over the number of pending applications in North West and North East districts. The Committee directed Divisional Commissioner to investigate the matter and submit a report along with decisions taken on pending applications upto 31.5.2000. The Committee was also not satisfied with the procedure of verification of those certificates which were issued by other States and directed that the Deptt. should resort to verification only in case of any doubt and not in a routine manner. The Committee was also of the review that general public should not be made to suffer because of unfair measures adopted by some officials. The Committee was informed that the matter relating to verification of certificates issued by other States was based on the orders of Central Govt. and this condition therefore could not be waived off. The Committee directed that this matter and raising of income level from one lac to five lacs, as in the states of U.P. & Rajasthan, be examined and the Committee be informed accordingly.

The Committee in its meeting held on 28.6.2000 expressed displeasure again over the failure of the Deptt. to submit necessary information. The Committee was apprised that delay was because of paucity of field staff and submitted the list of pending cases upto 31.5.2000. The Committee opined that the deficiency in staff needs to be made good at the earliest.

The Committee when asked about essentiality of furnishing an affidavit along with application, was informed that it was essential because of policy of Central Govt. and was taken as a precautionary measure in order to avoid misuse of

certificates. The Committee was of the opinion that the procedure should be simplified and the time limit shortened for speedy issuance of certificates. The Committee also brought to the notice of the Divisional Commissioner the inordinate delay in processing some cases of issuance of Certificates. Divisional Commissioner assured that he would have the matter look into if the details were brought to his notice.

The Committee was also of the opinion that the applicant should be informed of the reasons if certificate cannot be issued. The Committee also opined that the entire process of issuance of caste certificates should be computerised and adequate publicity be given to the scheme through the Print and Electronic Media as the general public is unaware of the procedure and those offices which issue certificate free of cost. The Committee also directed that a complaint box be placed near the office of the Divisional Commissioner wherein the complaints can be deposited by the harrassed applicants.

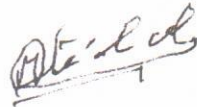
RECOMMENDATIONS :

The Committee after completing evidence given by the Deptt. and on the basis of information furnished to it, makes the following recommendations ;

- 1) Verification of certificates may be resorted to in case of doubt and not as a routine measure in all the cases.
- 2) The ceiling of annual income may be raised from Rs. one lac to Rs. five lac, as applicable in States of UP & Rajasthan, keeping in view the criteria of creamy layer.

- 3) The Divisional Commissioner may take up the matter with Secretary (Services) to make good deficiencies in staff at the earliest.
- 4) The Deptt. should devise a single window method for issuance of caste certificates and simplify its forms & procedure. The time limit may also be reduced to 15 days in case of issue of caste certificates to original residents. In case of inability of the Deptt. to issue caste certificates an intimation may be sent to the applicant alongwith reasons.
- 5) The Deptt. may take up computerisation for issuance of certificates and uplinking of districts to facilitate access to inter district information regarding verification and rules etc.,
- 6) Adequate publicity may be given to the scheme through electronic & print media with regard to the procedure and location of offices for easy access to the general public.
- 7) A complaint box may be placed near the O/o Divisional Commissioner to facilitate the general public to inform the Divisional Commissioner of their difficulties. These complaints should be regularly attended to and the complainant informed of the action taken.

Dated the 17th November, 2000.


(MOTI LAL BOKOLIA)
Chairman.