



राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
(भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय)
(A Constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

F. No. NCST/DEV-620/TS/38/2022-ESDW

Dated: 14.06.2023

To,

The Collector & District Magistrate,
District Srikakulam,
Collectorate Complex,
Srikakulam-532001,
Andhra Pradesh,
E-Mail: collector_sklm@ap.gov.in

Sub: Minutes of the Sitting taken by Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST, New Delhi on 23.05.2023 at 03:00 PM regarding representation dated 22.08.2022 of Shri Vaba Yogeswararao, State Joint Secretary, Adivasi Samkshema Parishath, New Colony Saravakota, Post- Saravakota, District- Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh - 532426 regarding Request to address a Complaint against the accused who is not ST but with mala fide interest and by misrepresentation has changed to ST to avail the facilities.

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of Minutes of the Sitting taken by Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST, New Delhi on 23.05.2023 at 03:00 PM on the above mentioned subject for information and necessary action.

2. You are directed to send the Action Taken Report (ATR) on the recommendations of the Commission **within 15 days** from the date of receiving of the Minutes.

Encl: as Above.

Yours faithfully,

(H.R. Meena)
Research Officer

Copy for information to: -

1. Shri Vaba Yogeswararao,
State Joint Secretary,
Adivasi Samkshema Parishath,
New Colony Saravakota, Post- Saravakota,
District- Srikakulam,
Andhra Pradesh - 532426

- ✓ 2. NIC Cell for upload in NCST Website.

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

No. NCST/DEV-620/TS/38/2022-ESDW

Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Ananta Nayak, Hon'ble Member, NCST, on the representation of Shri Vaba Yogeshwara Rao, State Vice President, Adivasi Samkshema Parishath, New Colony Saravakota, Sarvakota Post/Mandal, Srikakulam District, Andhra Pradesh regarding misrepresentation by accused to avail benefits available to ST people.

Date of the Sitting: 23.05.2023


List of Participants: As per Annexure

The Commission has received a representation dated 22.08.2022 from Shri Vaba Yogeshwara Rao alleging that the accused Pagoti Venkata Raghuram, by misrepresentation and with mala-fide intent, converted his status to ST category to illegally avail the benefits meant for the STs. The person in question was adopted by his father's ST friend after which he took an adoptive name i.e. Singari Venkata Raghu Ram. There after he completed his law and got registered as an advocate in the Telangana High Court. After availing all the benefits available to ST category, he changed his name to his original name and original category of BC-D.

The Commission issued a notice to the Collector and District Magistrate, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh, on 12.09.2022 to submit action taken report within 15 days. No reply was received from the authority.

Since the Authorities fail to act upon the issue, the Commission held a Sitting on 14.03.2023, wherein the Collector and District Magistrate, Srikakulam Andhra Pradesh remained absent. Ms B. Navya, P.O. IT DA Seethampeta, was present before the Commission. In the said hearing on 14.03.2023, the Commission had recommended the following: -

1. Collector and District Magistrate, Srikakulam to submit the school records which have been called from the Principal of APT.WR Jr. College (B), Chintapalli, within 3 days.

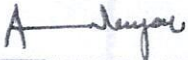

अनंत नायक/ANANTA NAYAK
सदस्य/Member
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जातों के आयोग
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

2. To refund the cost of travel of the petitioner for the last two hearings wherein the Collector and District Magistrate, Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh remained absent without permission from the Commission.
3. To conclude the enquiry in a time bound manner and submit action taken report to commission with 15 days.

Keeping in view of the seriousness of the issue and the lackadaisical attitude of the authorities on taking action as per the recommendation of the Commission in the given period, the Commission as issued summons to Shri Shrikesh B. Lathkar, Collector and District Magistrate, Srikakulam.

In the hearing held on 23.05.2023 the Shri Shrikesh B. Lathkar, Collector and District Magistrate, Srikakulam submitted stated Pagoti Venkata Raghuram and his father Mohanarao of Deergasi village did not possess Scheduled Tribe Certificates from the Tahsildar's offices. The Hon'ble High Court in Hyderabad conducted an investigation following a complaint against Mohanarao, the former Special Judge for cases under the S.Cs & S.Ts (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 in Mahaboobnagar. The court strongly disapproved of Mohanarao's conduct and reprimanded him. A notification in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette announced that Singari Venkata Raghuram, son of Singari Somulu, would be recognized as Pagoti Venkata Raghuram, son of Pagoti Mohanarao, to correct mistakes in school records due to parental error. Pagoti Venkata Raghuram submitted an OBC caste certificate in his name. The P.O.I.T.D.A, Seethampeta, concluded that neither Venkata Raghuram nor Mohanarao benefited from the ST Quota for employment in the A.P. state or central government. Venkata Raghuram did not receive fee concessions under the ST Quota for his LLB studies, despite a claim at the intermediate level. No ST Caste Certificate was found in the college records of Chintapalli APTW Jr. College.

Petitioner submitted that Pagoti Raghuram, originally from Deergan Village in Srikakulam District, attended AMNL School in Anakapalli until the 8th grade. Raghuram possesses a BC-D Polirati Velama certificate, which lists his father as Pagoti Mohanarao. In 1990, he was adopted by Singari Somulu and changed his name to Singari Venkata Raghuram.



अनंत नायक/ANANTA NAYAK
सदस्य/Member
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जाति आयोग
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

Allegedly, he falsified his caste certificate from BC-D to ST, enabling him to complete his 9th and 10th grade education. Raghuram pursued his intermediate studies in Bi.P.C at Andhra Pradesh Tribal Welfare Residential Junior College in Chintapalli, Visakhapatnam District. He obtained a law degree from Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupathi in 2001 and started practicing law in the High Court, Hyderabad. In 2014, he corrected his name mentioning that it has mistakenly printed Raghuram's name as Pagoti Venkata Raghuram & Pagoti Mohan Rao instead of Singari Venkata Raghuram, son of Singari Somulu. The Petitioner accuses Raghuram's father, Mohan Rao, a retired judge, of misusing his position to acquire false ST caste benefits and manipulate government officials.

After hearing both the sides, the Commission recommends the following:

1. A detailed joint investigation shall be conducted in coordination with the District Collector, Tirupathi District and submit the report within 15 days.
2. Petitioner shall submit all the relevant evidence to the Collector, Srikakulam for investigation.

The Action taken report to be sent to the commission within 15 days.


अनंत मायक/ANANTA MAYAK
सदस्य/Member
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जातों के समित
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES
भारत सरकार/Govt. of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

(ANNEXURE)

F. No. NCST/DEV-620/TS/38/2022-ESDW

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS: -

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes		
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Ananta Nayak	Hon'ble Member
2.	Dr. Jayant Sarode	Director
3.	Shri H.R. Meena	Research Officer
The Collector & District Magistrate, District Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh		
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Shrikesh B. Lathkar	District Collector
Petitioner		
S. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Vaba Yogeswararao,	Petitioner