



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

(A Constitutional Commission set up under Art. 338A of the Constitution to investigate and monitor all matters relating to violation of rights and safeguards provided for STs.)

File No. 17/2/Inclusion/2014/RU-III.

Dated 14/03/2014

To

Shri Rajeev Prakash,
Director,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi- 110001

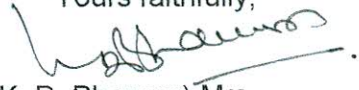
Sub: Inclusion of "Puran" community in the list of STs in the State of Jharkhand.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter No. 12026/23/2012-C&LM-I dated 16/01/2014 forwarding therewith the proposal for Inclusion of "Puran" community in the list of STs in the State of Jharkhand State seeking comments of NCST and to say that the subject matter was discussed as Agenda Item No- VI in the 52nd Meeting of the Commission held on 23/01/2014.


2. The Relevant Extracts from the Summary Record of the meeting of the Commission are enclosed for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,


(K. D. Bhansor) Mrs.
Director

Copy with copies of enclosures forwarded for information and necessary action to:-

- ✓ 1. SSA (NIC) for uploading on the Website of NCST
2. Assistant Director (Coordination)


(K. D. Bhansor) Mrs.
Director

52ND MEETING
OF THE
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES
SUMMARY RECORD OF DISCUSSIONS

Date: 23rd January, 2014

Time: 11:00 hours

Venue: Conference Room, NCST, 6th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi.

In the Chair: Dr. Rameshwar Oraon, Hon'ble Chairperson, NCST

List of Participants: Annexed.

1. All the eight listed Agenda Items and one tabled Agenda were discussed and decided as below:

Agenda Item VI	Inclusion of "Puran" community in the list of STs in the State of Jharkhand.
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25. Ministry of Tribal Affairs in their letter F. No.12026/23/2012-C&LM-I dated 16/01/2014 have sought the comments of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on the Inclusion of "Puran" { पुरान } community in the list of STs in the State of Jharkhand. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has forwarded a copy of the proposal received from the Government of Jharkhand and also a copy of the RGI letter dated 8/01/2004 forwarding the views of the RGI on the proposal of the State Government.

26. The Commission noted from the comments of the RGI that the proposal for inclusion of Puran Community in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Jharkhand State, received and examine in the year 2005, was not supported by the RGI mainly on the ground that the proposed community was synonymous to "BHUIYA" community which is specified as Scheduled Caste in relation to the State of Jharkhand. The RGI has now agreed to include Puran Community in the list of Scheduled Tribes of Jharkhand State on the basis of the following observations:

6. It is true that Purans live in multi ethnic villages along with members of other castes and tribes. They also reportedly maintain Jajmani (Patron-client) relationship with different occupational castes of the village. Different rites and rituals associated with birth, marriage and death in Purans are performed with the help of Brahman as well as with their caste priest known as Pahan. And they also avail the assistance of different occupational castes such as Nai, Kumhar etc. during marriage and in post death rites. Purans speak their own dialect known as Puran Boli which is an admixture of Oriya, Hindi and Panch Pargania (one of the regional languages of Jharkhand). They also speak Mundari, Hindi and Panchparganiya.

7. A closer analysis suggests that many plain dwelling tribes like Kisan, Munda, Santhal, Mahali, Bhumij etc. of eastern States have interspersed with Hindu Castes and have close socio-cultural interaction with the later. Still they are enjoying the status of Scheduled Tribes with considerable change in their cultural traits.

8. The above information and analysis suggest that Purans have distinct culture having traces of some primitive traits noticeable in their rites and rituals, custom of bride price, existence of community priest, folk deities, traditional Political Council, totemistic exogamous clans etc. They fulfill the criteria laid down by the Lokur Committee for identification of a Community as a tribe.

9. Keeping in view the facts stated above we may support the inclusion of Puran Community in the Scheduled Tribes list of Jharkhand.

27. The Commission observed that the change in views of the RGI does not relate to the basic characteristic of backwardness of a tribal Community due to geographical isolation. The Commission, therefore, decided that a team of the Commission may visit the State and the areas inhabited by the persons belonging to the "Puran" Community proposed to be specified as Scheduled Tribe and submit a report for consideration of the Commission before furnishing its views to the sponsoring Ministry.