

P.N.S)

M. KARUNANIDHI
CHIEF MINISTER



SECRETARIAT
CHENNAI - 600 009

Date 02.04.2010

D.O. Letter No.3044/CV-1/2006, Dated 02.04.2010

Dear Sir,

I invite your kind attention to the longstanding pending issue of inclusion of the Scheduled Castes convert to Christians in the list of Scheduled Castes so as to make them eligible for all concessions including reservation as granted to Scheduled Castes.

The Government of Tamilnadu have already urged the Government of India to consider the above proposal through protracted correspondence.

According to the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order 1950; the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Modification Order, 1956 & the Scheduled Castes / Scheduled Tribes (Amendment) Order Act, 1976, "no person who professes a religion different from Hinduism or Sikhism or Buddhism shall be deemed to be a member of a Scheduled Castes."

In Paragraph 3 of the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Modification Order 1950, it was originally laid down that "notwithstanding anything contained in paragraph 2, no person who professes a religion different from Hinduism shall be deemed to be a member of a Scheduled Castes". But subsequently, this paragraph was amended in 1956 to include those professing Sikh religion also as members of Scheduled Castes and further it was amended in 1990 to include those professing Buddhist religion too to be considered as Schedule Castes.

The Government of Tamilnadu felt that the members of Castes listed in the schedule (Schedule Castes) have suffered social & economic discrimination irrespective of the religion professed by them. Moreover, this Government has assured to take necessary steps to ensure that all concessions available to the Scheduled Castes are extended to the Scheduled Castes who follow others religions. Hence, this Government considers that it would be appropriate, if paragraph 3 of the Constitution (SC) Order, 1950 is deleted in toto, which would mean that those cases listed in the schedule will be treated as Scheduled Castes.

I, therefore, seek your esteemed personal intervention in this matter of inclusion of the Scheduled Castes convert Christians in the list of Scheduled Castes through an Act of Parliament meeting the requirement of Articles 341(2) & 342(2) of the Constitution of India.

M. Karunanidhi
Yours sincerely,

M. Karunanidhi

(M.KARUNANIDHI)

To
Dr. Manmohan Singh,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
New Delhi.