

REPORT OF A.P. COMMISSION FOR BACKWARD CLASSES

I – Introduction

A.P. Commission for backward classes in its meeting held on 22-03-2006 resolved to examine the representations of the castes pending before the Commission which are predominantly concentrated in limited areas with less population. Accordingly, the Commission issued a notification dated 31-03-2006 which was published in A.P. Gazette dated 13-04-2006 calling for representations, objections and suggestions for inclusion of 36 castes / communities.

After issue of notification, public hearings were held from 15-05-2006 to 25-05-2006. Subsequently the Commission deputed a survey team, which took up door-to-door household sample survey to assess the socio, educational, employment and economic conditions. The survey team collected the necessary data in the format formulated by the Commission. The said information gathered was compiled and included in the survey report.

The Commission considered the representations submitted by the representatives and material papers filed by them, findings of Anthropological Survey of India, house-hold sample survey reports and personal observations of the Commission to decide whether a particular class / caste is fit to be included in the list of Backward Classes or not and discussed herein:

II - CRITERIA TO IDENTIFY A BACKWARD CLASS OF CITIZENS

The commission examined and discussed the criteria to be adopted for the purpose of determining the educational, employment and social backwardness. To identify a particular caste as a backward class for the purpose of Articles 15 (4) and 16(4) of the constitution of India that particular caste must be both educationally and socially backward. The Mandal commission adopted certain criteria, which was followed by the later commissions. This commission also followed the principles laid down by the then Anantaraman commission and Mandal commission.

This commission adopted the criteria i.e., (1) social, (2) educational, (3) employment, (4) economic and (5) political status of each community to identify whether a particular caste or community is a backward class of citizens or not as discussed below.

- 1. Social backwardness:** - For the purpose of determining social backwardness, the commission examined the traditional occupation in practice, self perception of the occupation, treatment of occupation by others, social discrimination, sectoral distribution and other factors such as the place of habitation in Kutcha / Hut, whether the facilities like telephone, electricity, latrine, drinking water are available within their premises. Social customs such as child marriages, widow marriages, divorce and child labour are prevalent or in practice.
- 2. Educational backwardness:** - With regard to educational backwardness the literacy rate when compared to the state literacy level, percentage of matriculation passed, percentage of school dropouts etc. were taken into account.

- 3. Employment backwardness:** - It is considered as employment backwardness, if the representation in employment of the community people surveyed is less than or equal to 1% in the Govt. services, if the representation in employment of the community people is less than or equal to 2% in the private sector, if the female work force of the community is 50% or above engaged in economic activity, if percentage of total workers of the community who are engaged in agricultural labour and non-agricultural labour is equal or above the state total workers.
- 4. Economic Status:** - With regard to economic status, the commission considered if the majority of rural community is below the poverty line i.e., Rs.18000/- P.A. or the majority of urban community is below the poverty line i.e., Rs.24000/- P.A. or the majority of the rural community is below per capita income of Rs.3750/- or the majority of the urban community is below the per capita income of Rs.5000/-.
- 5. Political Status:** - To determine the political status of the community if no ward member of their caste is elected in the areas where the households are surveyed, weightage points are given.

The commission adopted the principles laid down in Mandal case and the data available with the commission are considered caste wise. The commission followed the principles enunciated in several decisions of the Apex court to arrive at the right conclusion.

III - METHODOLOGY FOLLOWED BY THE COMMISSION

There were representations pending for inclusion from several castes and communities by the time the commission was reconstituted. The commission in its meeting held on 22-03-2006 resolved to examine certain castes, which are predominantly concentrated in limited areas with less population. A notification was issued on 31-03-2006, which was published in A.P. Gazette on 13-04-2006 calling for representations, objections and suggestions. Subsequently public hearings were conducted from 15-05-2006 to 25-05-2006 and after public hearings; the commission personally visited the places where those people are residing to assess their living conditions. The commission also deputed a survey team and they conducted door-to-door household sample survey and the results of data collected by them were furnished to the commission. The commission took into consideration the oral and written representations, material papers filed by them, findings of anthropological survey of India, A.P. series, sample survey reports and personal observations of the commission to decide whether a particular caste or class is fit to be included in the list of backward classes or not. The commission examined all the material available on record and took a decision in its meeting held on 29-01-2007.

IV – CASTE WISE REPORT

(1) AGHAMUDIAN, AGHAMUDIAR, AGAMUDIVELLALAR, AGAMUDIMUDALIAR (INCLUDING THULUVA VELLALAS)

Sri C.P.Doraiswamy Mudaliar, President of Chittoor Mudaliar Sangham submitted a representation to the Collector, Chittoor District on 01-02-1994 which was forwarded to the Commission requesting to include Aghamudi including Thuluva Vellala caste in the list of Backward Classes. It was contended that they belong to Chittoor District and their population is about 2%. They reside mostly in Chittoor, Nellore, Kurnool, Anantapur, Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts. Most of them are engaged as Agricultural labourers, weavers, and labourers in printing press, employed as workers in beedi and match factory and most of them are below poverty line. They are economically and socially backward. Their literacy rate is very low and they are looked down by other forward castes. There is no political representation in their community. It was further represented that Aghamudian including Thuluva Vellala caste was included in the list of Backward Classes in composite Madras State and in Andhra Pradesh till 1970. When the list was revised, Anantharaman did not recommend and so much so their caste was not included. Even now in the States of Tamilnadu and Karnataka, this community is recognized and included in the list of Backward Classes and therefore they requested that they may be included in the list of Backward Classes of Andhra Pradesh.

Similar representations were received from the President, Chittoor District Aghamudian and Thuluva Vellala community. They also enclosed A.P Educational Rules, containing a list of Backward Classes as existed in the year 1966 wherein under Group-5; Serial.No.1 Aghamudian (including Thuluva Vellalas) was recognized as a Backward Class. Representations from other Associations from Chittoor, Puttur, Kuppam, Nagari and twin cities of Secunderabad and Hyderabad were received requesting to include the said caste

in the list of Backward Classes. Thuluva Vellala Associations, Hyderabad and Secunderabad have also submitted their memorandum requesting to include Aghamudian (including Thuluva Vellalas) caste in the list of Backward Classes contending that their population is about 88,750 as on 24-7-1995.

After the commission was reconstituted, a notification dated 31-03-2006 was issued which was published in A.P. Gazette dated 13-04-2006 calling for representations, objections and suggestions and the caste representatives submitted their representations. Subsequently the commission held public hearing on 19-05-2006 and at the time of public hearing Sri R. Radhakrishnan, P.N.Shivaraj, P.Bhaskar, V.Bhaskar, V.Balu, V.P.Harikrishna, T.R. Kuppuswamy, T.Vittal Rao, P.M.Daivasikamani, K.Nagaraju and others appeared before the commission and pleaded for inclusion of the said caste.

The commission deputed a survey team to conduct household sample survey to assess the social, educational, economic and political conditions of those people. The survey results are as follows:

Survey Results

1. Introduction:

The survey staff of the Commission conducted Local enquiries and Investigations including door-to-door household sample survey during July 2006 and October 2007 in Hyderabad and Chittoor districts. The household sample Survey covered (171) Households of this community. The traditional occupation of this community is Agriculture and Coolie.

2. Social Status:

All the 171 Households comprising 664 persons are living in Rural 67% and Urban 33% areas with household size 3.88. The sex ratio is 98 per 100 whereas the same for children upto 14 years 87 per 100.

Results on Traditional Occupation (T.O.)

Item	Remarks	No of Households	Percentage
a) Traditional occupation in practice	Yes	58	33.9
	No	113	66.1
b) Self perception on Traditional Occupation	Superior	0	0.0
	Inferior	34	19.9
	Normal	137	80.1
c) T.O treated by others	Superior	0	0.0
	Inferior	38	22.2
	Normal	133	77.8
d) Social discrimination	Yes	36	21.1
	No	0	0.0
	Normal	135	78.9

About 34% of households are engaged in their traditional occupation i.e., Agriculture and Agri-coolie. The traditional occupation being treated by others 22.2% as inferior with social discrimination 21.1% in their residential areas.

3. Educational Status:

a) Literates (7 years and above)

Sl. No	Description	Male	Female	Total
1	Literates No %	222 (73.5)	206 (68.2)	428 70.9
2	Illiterates No %	80 26.5	96 31.8	176 29.1

The literacy rate of the Community of male is 74%, female 68% and total 71% as against the state literacy rates 70.3% and 50.4% and 60.5% respectively. The literacy of the community is above the state literacy rate.

b) Educational level completed (7 years & above)

Sl.No.	Class Passed	No.of persons/ Literates	Percentage over	
			Population	literates
1	Below 5 th	71	11.8	16.6
2	5 th class	86	14.2	20.1
3	7 th class	127	21.0	29.7
4	10 th class	85	14.1	19.8
5	Inter	36	6.0	8.4
6	Degree	18	3.0	4.2
7	Prof & Tech	5	0.8	1.2
8	Post Gr	0	0.0	0.0
	All classes	427	70.9	100.0

About 71% of literates with Male 74% and female 68% as against the state literacy rates 60.47, 70.32 and 50.43 respectively, although there is no Post – Graduation in this community.

c) Literates and dropouts by Age group (7 years and above)

Sl. No.	Age Group	Population	Total Literates	Percentage of Literates		Drop outs	Percent of dropouts	
				Among Age Group	Over Total Pop.		Over Persons	Over Literates
1	7-14	97	97	100.0	16.1	45	46.4	46.4
2	15-24	132	118	89.4	19.5	91	68.9	77.1
3	25-39	151	94	62.3	15.6	88	58.3	93.6
4	40-59	166	101	60.8	16.7	86	51.8	85.1
5	60+	58	18	31.0	3.0	16	27.6	88.9
	All	604	428		70.9	326	54.0	76.2

Though there are a good percentage of literates among age groups, percentage of dropouts over persons and over literates is high. The over all percentage of dropouts from education is 54.0% over persons and 76.2% over literates.

d) Drop-outs from School/College studies with reasons (All-ages)

Sl.No.	Reason for Dropouts	No. of persons	Dropout Rate	Percentage. over pop.
1	Failed	30	8.6	4.5
2	Education not required	97	27.9	14.6
3	Marriage	56	16.1	8.4
4	To work	38	10.9	5.7
5	Poverty	120	34.5	18.1
6	Health & others	6	1.7	0.9
	All	348		52.4

The rate of dropouts is 52.4% over the total population. About 79% of dropouts from education are due to reasons i.e., Education not required (27.9%), marriage (16.1%) and poverty (34.5%).

4. Employment Status:

The entire surveyed population of Agamudi community basing on their economic activity is divided into Working group and Non Working group. The Working group of people is consisting of Daily wage earners, Self-employed, Regular salaried and part-time workers. So also the Non-Working group of people consisting of children, students, aged, retired ill health, unemployed, housewives, and households.

a) Working and Non-Working groups of people by sex are as follows.

	Workers			Non-Workers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total

Number	192	151	343	144	177	321
Percentage Over total	57.1	46.0	51.7	42.9	54.0	48.3

It is noticed that the percentage of Male workers constitute 57.1% whereas Female is 46.0% as against the total working persons of 51.7. The State level workers participation rates are 56.23, 35.11 and 45.8 respectively.

It is noticed from the above table that the work participation rate of the community is registered above the State work participation rate.

b) Statement showing Economic activity among working people.

S.No	Economic activity	Sex	Number	Percent to Total pop	Percent to Workers- population
1	Daily wage in Agri.	Male	77	22.9	40.1
		Female	57	17.4	37.7
		Total	134	20.2	39.1
2	Daily wage in Non Agri.	Male	34	10.1	17.7
		Female	21	6.4	13.9
		Total	55	8.3	16.0
3	Self employed in Agri	Male	11	3.3	5.7
		Female	1	0.3	0.7
		Total	12	1.8	3.5
4	Self employed in Non-Agri	Male	56	16.7	29.2
		Female	40	12.2	26.5
		Total	96	14.5	28.0
5	Regular salaried in Govt	Male	5	1.5	2.6
		Female	2	0.6	1.3
		Total	7	1.1	2.0
6	Regular salaried in Pvt.	Male	8	2.4	4.2
		Female	5	1.5	3.3
		Total	13	1.9	3.8
7	Part time workers	Male	1	0.3	0.5
		Female	25	7.6	16.6
		Total	26	3.9	7.6
	Grand Total		343	51.7	100.0

Out of the total working population (51.7%) about 43.0% of work force is engaged in daily wage in Agriculture and daily wage in non-agriculture and self

employed in agriculture and non-agriculture activities. However, about 3% are engaged in self-employed in Govt. & in Pvt. Establishments.

5. Economic status

Description	No.of Households	Percentage over hhs.
a) Possessing Agrl. Land	51	29.8
b) Type of House (residing)		
i) Pucca	35	20.5
ii) Semi pucca	97	56.7
iii) Kutcha/Huts	39	22.8
c) Having Ration cards:		
i) White	143	83.6
ii) Pink	20	11.7
iii) No card	8	4.7
d) Facilities/Amenities:	22	12.9
i) Phone – Having connected	149	87.1
Not having Phone		
ii) Drinking water in the – Yes	55	32.2
premises of households No	116	67.8
iii) Electricity connection Yes	156	91.2
	15	8.8
iv) Toilet within the premises Yes	60	35.1
	111	64.9
v) Per capita income =Per Annum	Rs. 6,405/-	
vi) Avg. Land holding = acres.	0.30	

Only about 30% of Households possessing agricultural land. About 80% of households are living in Kutch/huts and semi pucca houses, 84% of households having white ration card, 87% of households having no phone facility, 68% of households do not have facility of drawing drinking water within their house premises and 91% of houses having electricity connection. The per capita income of the community is Rs.6,405/- against the state per capita income of Rs.25,695/-.

Edgar Thurston in his treatise "Castes and Tribes of Southern India" relying on the Madras census Report 1901, referred Aghamudian, Aghamudiar, Agamudivellalar and Agamudimudaliar as a cultivating caste. Agamudiyan occurs as synonymous of Vellalas. People of India series also dealt with this caste.

The Commission personally toured Chittoor district from 9.10.2006 to 16.10.2006. The Commission visited the places of their living in Chittoor, Punganur, Kuppam and Kollagunta village of Karvetinagar Mandal, Puttur, Nagari, Nagalapuram and Srikalahasti. The Commission also toured twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad where the above caste people are residing to assess their living conditions.

The survey results would reveal that 34% of households are engaged in their traditional occupation and about 22% are treated by others as inferior with social discrimination. Though the literacy is just equal to the state literacy rate; there is no one at postgraduate level. The school / college dropouts are more. Persons employed in Govt. services are very less. About 80% of the households live in kutcha and semi pucca houses and most of them are living in unhygienic conditions without basic amenities. During personal visit of the Commission, the Commission assessed their actual living conditions and most of them are socially segregated and living separately. Their per capita income is also low and they are not adequately represented in Govt. services. There is no political representation in their community.

The people belonging to Aghamudian and Thuluva Vellala caste use the title as Mudaliar. Their traditional occupation is cultivation; Aghamudayar, Thuluva Vellala, Aghamudian, Aghamudiar, Agamudivellalar and Agamudimudaliar are synonymous and are traditionally ordinary cultivators. The landless Aghamudian, work as daily wage labourers, construction workers, vegetable vendors, masons, commission agents, and mechanics etc. Their

avocations are un-remunerative and undignified. They are looked down by others. The population of this caste is about 88,750. Majority of them are agricultural labourers.

This caste is recognized as a backward class in the states of Karnataka, Tamilnadu and Pondicherry. In the composite state of Madras, this caste was recognized as a backward class and their status is the same even today in Tamilnadu. After the states reorganization, part of the territory in the composite Madras and Karnataka were merged in the state of Andhra Pradesh and this caste people are residing in the border areas of Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. This caste was recognized as a Backward Caste in the composite Madras State and after formation of A.P., they continued to enjoy the same status of Backward Class and also recognized in G.O.Ms.No.1880, Education (II) Department, dated 29.7.1966 at S.No.78. But Anantaraman Commission had not given any reasons for not including this caste in the list. Since then they have been making representations. Their population is very limited and these people live only in border areas.

The commission after considering the oral and written representations, the material collected in the household sample survey and applying the criteria, we come to the conclusion that **Aghamudian, Aghamudiar, Agamudivellalar and Agamudimudaliar** (including Thuluva Vellalas) are socially and educationally backward for the purpose of Articles 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution of India and fit to be included in the list of backward classes under **Group-D** at **Serial No. 39**. Since, our local enquiry revealed that they are living in Chittoor, Nellore, Kurnool, Ananthapur, Hyderabad and Rangareddy districts, the area of operation shall be confined to those districts only.

(2) BERI VYSYA, BERI CHETTY

President of Beri Vysya Community Welfare Association, Palmaneru, Chittoor District submitted an application requesting the Commission to include this caste in the list of Backward Classes on the ground that the said caste is socially, educationally and economically backward. Beri Chetty Sangam, Nellore also sent an application making similar request. Sri K.G. Vadevelu from Vijayawada, N.S. Sridhar and others from Kalluru have also submitted their representation requesting to include Beri Vysya / Beri Chetty Caste in the list of Backward Classes contending that the said caste is sub-caste emerged from AYIRA VAISHYA. It was contended that they are minority community in Andhra Pradesh and their population is negligible. They depend on petty business; some of them are engaged in preparing and selling eatable items and eke out their livelihood. They sell coconuts, Beetalnuts, Camphor etc., in some places. The literacy rate is very low and they are looked down by others. There is no political representation for them. They are living mostly in border area and other places in Andhra Pradesh. Sri Gali Muddu Krishnam Naidu, Former Minister and sitting MLA, Puttur and Sri K.Narayanaswamy, MLA, Sathyavedu have also made written representations recommending to include the said minority caste in the list of Backward Classes.

After the commission was reconstituted, the Commission issued a Notification dated 31-03-2006 which was published in A.P. Gazette on 13-04-2006 calling for representations, objections and suggestions. The castes representatives submitted similar representations. Subsequently the commission held public hearing on 17-05-2006. Sri S. Shankar, P.K. Ramalingam, A. Jatrayal Chetty, P.V. Balasubrahmaniam and others appeared before the commission and pleaded for inclusion. The commission personally toured the places of their habitation to assess the living conditions of those people and also deputed a survey team. The commission formulated a format to collect data with regard to socio, economic, educational and political conditions of the people and the data collected by the survey team is as follows:

Survey Results

1. Introduction:

The survey staff of the Commission conducted Local enquiries and Investigations including door-to-door household survey during the month of October 2006 in Chittoor district. The sample household Survey covered 61 households of this community. The traditional occupation of this community is petty business.

2. Social Status:

All the 61% Households comprising 230 persons are living in Rural 54% and Urban 46% area respectively, with household size 3.77. The sex ratio is 109 female per 100 male whereas the same for children upto 14 years 96 per 100.

Results on Traditional Occupation (T.O.)

Item	Remarks	No of Households	Percentage
a) Traditional occupation in practice	Yes	38	62.3
	No	23	37.7
b) Self perception of the caste people on Traditional Occupation	Superior	0	0.0
	Inferior	12	19.7
	Normal	49	80.3
c) T.O treated by others	Superior	0	0.0
	Inferior	13	21.3
	Normal	48	78.7
d) Social discrimination	Yes	14	23.0
	No	1	1.6
	Normal	46	75.4

The traditional occupation of this community is petty business; the same is being in practice by 62% of households. The traditional occupation is felt as

inferior by 21% of households and 23% of households are reported discriminated in their residential areas.

3. **Educational Status:**

a) Sex-wise literates (7 years & above)

Sl. No	Description	Male	Female	Total
1	Literates No %	91 93.8	61 60.1	152 76.8
2	Illiterates No %	6 6.2	40 39.6	46 23.2

The literacy of this community is 76.8% with male 93.8% and female 60.0% as against the state literacy rate 60.47, 70.32 and 50.43 respectively. The literacy of the community is seen above the state literacy rate.

b) Educational level completed (7 years & above)

Sl.No.	Class Passed	No.of Literates	Percentage over	
			Population	Literates
1	Below 5 th	25	12.6	16.4
2	5 th class	27	13.6	17.8
3	7 th class	42	21.2	27.6
4	10 th class	31	15.7	20.4
5	Inter	12	6.1	8.0
6	Degree	13	6.6	8.5
7	P.Gr.	0	0	0
8.	Pro.Tech.	2	1.0	1.3
	All Classes	152	76.8	100.0

However, literates upto 10th class passed over population is 63.1% over literates 82.2% and Post Metric passed is 13.7% and 17.8% respectively. there is no post graduate passed candidate found.

c) Literates and dropouts (7 years and above)

Sl. No.	Age Group	Population	Total Literates	Percentage of Literates		Drop outs	Percent of dropouts	
				Among Age Group	Over Total Pop.		Over Persons	Over Literates
1	7-14	19	19	100.0	9.6	1	5.3	5.3
2	15-24	42	41	97.6	20.7	30	71.4	73.2
3	25-39	63	48	76.2	24.2	44	69.8	91.7
4	40-59	54	36	66.7	18.2	33	61.1	91.7
5	60+	20	8	40.0	4.0	9	45.0	112.5
	All	198	152		76.8	177	59.1	77.0

Dropouts of the community are 59.1% over population and 77% over the literates. Dropouts from education are reported very high in all the age groups except age group 7-14 years.

d) Drop-outs from School/College studies with reasons (All-ages)

Sl.No.	Reason for Dropouts	No. of Dropouts	Dropout Rate	Percentage. over pop.
1	Failed	20	16.4	8.7
2	Education not required	12	9.8	5.2
3	Marriage	15	12.3	6.5
4	To work	23	18.9	10.0
5	Poverty	50	41.0	21.7
6	Health & others	2	1.6	0.8
	All	122	100.0	52.9

More than 70% of dropouts from education are due to reasons of marriage, to work and poverty which shows the social and economic backwardness of this community.

4. **Employment Status:**

The entire surveyed population of Bery Vysya community basing on their economic activity is divided into Working group and Non Working group. The Working group of people is consisting of Daily wage earners, Self-employed, Regular salaried and part-time workers. So also the Non-Working group of people consisting of children, students, aged, retired, ill health, unemployed, housewives, and households.

a) Working and Non-Working groups of people by sex are as follows.

	Workers			Non-Workers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number	70	44	114	40	76	116
Percentage Over total	63.6	36.7	49.6	36.4	63.3	50.4

It is noticed that the Male workers constitute 63.6 where as Female 36.7 and the total working percentage of 49.6 against the state working rates 56.23, 35.11 and 45.8 respectively. Women work participation rate is slightly higher than the state women-working rate.

b) Statement showing Economic activity among working people.

S.No	Economic activity	Sex	Number	Percent to Total pop	Percent to Workers-population
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1	Daily wage in Agri.	Male	3	2.7	4.3
		Female	5	4.2	11.4
		Total	8	3.55	7.05
2	Daily wage in Non Agri.	Male	6	5.4	8.6
		Female	3	2.5	6.8
		Total	9	4.0	7.9
3	Self employed in Agri	Male	1	0.9	1.4
		Female	0	0.0	0.0
		Total	1	0.45	0.9
4	Self employed in Non-Agri	Male	56	51.0	80.0
		Female	19	15.8	43.2
		Total	75	32.6	65.8
5	Regular salaried in Govt	Male	0	0.0	0.0
		Female	0	0.0	0.0
		Total	0	0.0	0.0
6	Regular salaried in Pvt.	Male	4	3.6	5.7
		Female	2	1.7	4.5
		Total	6	2.6	5.3
7	Part time workers	Male	0	0.0	0.0
		Female	15	12.5	34.1
		Total	15	6.5	13.1
	Grand Total		114	49.6	100.0

Out of total working population 65.8% are engaged in self-employed in non-agri i.e., Business or petty shops. There are no Govt. employees in this community. However 2.6% of workers over population are working in private establishments.

5. Economic status:

Description	No.of households	Percentage over hhs.
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a) Possessing Agrl. Land	3	0.20
b) Type of House (residing)		
i) Pucca	24	39.4
ii) Semi pucca	29	47.5
iii) Kutcha/Huts	8	13.1
c) Having Ration cards:		
i) White	49	80.3
ii) Pink	11	18.0
iii) No card	1	1.7
d) Facilities/Amenities:		
i) Phone – Having connected	12	19.7
Not having Phone	49	80.0
ii) Drinking water in the – Yes	24	39.3
premises of households No	37	60.7
iii) Electricity connection Yes	59	96.7
	2	3.3
iv) Toilet within the premises Yes	30	49.2
	31	50.8
v) Percapita income =Per Annum	4,601/-	
vi) Avg. Land holding = acres.	0.20 Acres	

About 60% of households are living in semi pucca/ kutcha houses with 80.3% having white Ration Card. About 80% without having telephone facility, 61% no drinking water facility within their premises and 51% without latrine facility. Average per capita income of the community is Rs. 4,601/- as against the state average of Rs. 25,695/-.

The survey results would reveal that 62% of households are engaged in traditional occupation, which is petty business. About 21% of the households feel that their occupation is inferior and 23% of the households are discriminated. Though the literacy rate is satisfactory, there is no one who did post graduation or technical education. The school / college dropouts are higher. Women work participation rate is higher which would indicate their poverty. There is no one employed in Govt. service. About 60% of households are living in semi pucca houses and their average Per capita income is less than the state average and most of them live in unhygienic conditions without basic amenities.

The commission personally inspected the places of their habitation and observed that they are very poor eking out their livelihood by doing petty business and some of them are engaged in selling eatables on the roadside. The commission also noticed that they are segregated and they are residing separately and there is a street called Beri Street. We noticed such streets in Chittoor, Nagari and other places. Even now those streets exist and these people are residing in those areas.

There is a reference to Beri Vysya / Beri Chetty Caste in "People of India National Series Volume IV by K.S. Singh at page 147 under the caption "AYIRA VAISHYAR". It is referred that "Ayira Vaishyar" derives their name from the word 'Ayiram', which means thousand. The Beris were living at Kaveripuram in thousand houses each carry distinct name Gotra. They believe that their ancestors migrated from Kaveripumpattanam in Tanjavur district during Chola rule. "Ayira Vaishyar" is mainly a landholding community and their traditional occupations are agriculture and business. Of late, however, they have diversified into a number of occupations".

Prior to 1953, the Andhra Pradesh formed part of composite Madras State. This caste people said to have migrated during Chola period and spread over in the erstwhile Madras State. They are found mainly in Chittoor and Nellore districts and some of them are migrated to other parts of Andhra Pradesh. Some of the areas in the border districts were bifurcated in the formation of Andhra Pradesh and therefore, the said caste people cannot be treated as migrants but in fact the territories were annexed to the state of Andhra Pradesh. The caste of Ayira Vaishyar was recognized as a Backward Class in the State of Composite Madras and even now present State of Tamilnadu. Most of their relations are enjoying benefits of reservations in the state of Tamilnadu. The said caste was recognized as a Backward Class and included in the list of backward

classes of composite Madras state. After bifurcation of State of Andhra Pradesh, this caste people continued to enjoy the benefits until the report of the Anantharaman Commission. No reasons are given to delete the said caste from the list of backward classes in the report of Anantharaman Commission.

During our personal inspection, those persons living in the border areas represented to us that all their relations who are residing in Tamilnadu are reluctant to have marital relationship since this caste is not recognized as a Backward Class in Andhra Pradesh. Their population is about 5000 and they are residing in limited areas. They are confined to Chittoor, Nellore and Krishna districts. These people are different from Arya Vysyas (Komati) who are strict vegetarians whereas Beri Chetty is non-vegetarians.

Taking into consideration of the relevant facts collected by this Commission at the time of Public hearing, collection of data and other relevant facts with due regard to the principles / criteria laid down in the Mandal case and the criteria adopted by this Commission, **Beri Vysya /Beri Chetty** caste is socially and educationally backward and they are inadequately represented in the services under the State of Andhra Pradesh and hence they are fit to be included in the list of Backward Classes under **Group –D** at **S.No.40** and this Commission recommends for inclusion of the said caste, since our local enquiry revealed that they are living in Chittoor, Nellore and Krishna Districts, the area of operation shall be confined to those districts only.

(3) LODH, LODHI, LODHA

Sri Ram Singh Subedar, President of Lodh Kshatriya Sadar Panchayat, Dhoolpeta, Hyderabad, submitted a memorandum to the Chairman, A.P. Commission for Backward Classes, on 27-5-1994 requesting to include Lodh community in the list of Backward Classes. It was contended that the community is socially, educationally and economically backward. The illiteracy is about 95% and more than 70% of the people are below the poverty line. Most of the people reside in Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts. The people migrated to Andhra Pradesh about 350 years ago during the invasion of Moghals from Bundel khand area and they are spread over in almost all parts of the country and they are recognized as Backward in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Assam. They are included in the list of Scheduled Tribes in the States of Orissa and Bengal. The Mandal Commission also recognized this caste as Backward Class in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Bihar, Haryana, Delhi, Assam, Tripura and Rajasthan.

Another representation was also submitted to the Chairman on 24-8-1994 by Sri Ram Singh Subedar, President of Lodh Kshatriya Sadar Panchayat, contending that their population is about 1 lakh and out of them there are 9 post-graduates, 93 graduates and 325 members and above are matriculates. The literacy rate is about 4%. The school dropouts are more in number. The children are employed to support the earnings of the family. The community people are depending upon the manufacture of clay idols such as Ganesh idols, manufacturing of kites, manufacturing of Rakhis, manufacturing of Kulfi, manufacturing of Papads and Murukulu (snacks) and illicit distillation of liquor. In the rural areas they work as agricultural labourers. The females also work to support the income. They are not mingling with other communities and they are looked down. They are mainly residing in Dhoolpet and other areas of Nanakram Guda, Golkonda, Gachi Bowli etc. Most of them live in Kutcha houses, which are in dilapidated condition. There are no toilet facilities and they live in unhygienic conditions. They do not have proper drinking water facility and they

depend on the mercy of owners of the Wells of sweet water for drinking. This community is a linguistic minority and they speak Hindi language. They have also produced slum certificates issued by the Project Officer, Urban Community Development, Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad.

After the commission was reconstituted a notification dated 31-03-2006 was issued which was published in A.P. Gazette dated 13-04-2006 calling for representations, objections and suggestions. The representatives of the caste have submitted similar representations. The commission held a public hearing on 15-05-2006 and during public hearing, Sri L.Sankar Singh Lodh and Sri Ramaraj Singh and Sri Hukum Singh represented before the Commission that their population is about 1 lakh and the people are residing in Hyderabad, Khammam, Ranga Reddy and Adilabad districts. It was represented that widow marriages and child marriages are prevalent in their community

The Commission formulated a format to assess the living conditions and the status of the caste. The survey team collected the data in the format and survey results are as follows:

Survey Results

1. Introduction:

The survey staff of the Commission conducted Local enquiries and Investigations including door-to-door sample household survey during July & November 2006 in Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy districts. The sample household Survey covered 134 Households of this community. The traditional occupation of this community is preparation and sale of illicit liquor.

2. Social Status:

All the 134 Households comprising 588 persons are living in Rural 31% & Urban 69% areas, with house hold size 4.39. The sex ratio is 103 female per 100 male, where as the same for children up to age 14 years 107.

Results on Traditional Occupation (T.O.)

Item	Remarks	No of Households	Percentage
a) Traditional occupation in practice	Yes	11	8.0
	No	123	92.0
b) Perception of the caste people on Traditional Occupation	Superior	0	0.0
	Inferior	59	44.0
	Normal	75	56
c) T.O treated by others	Superior	1	0.7
	Inferior	55	41.0
	Normal	78	58
d) Social discrimination	Yes	53	40.0
	No	3	2.2
	Normal	78	58

Although the manufacture of liquor is banned there is 8.0% of households are involved in it for their livelihood. The 44% of households felt their Traditional occupation as inferior. Owing to their Traditional occupation 40.0% of households have reported as they are socially discriminated in their dwelling localities

3. Educational Status:

a) Sex wise literates & illiterates (7years and above)

Sl. No	Description	Male	Female	Total
1	Literates No %	117 47.18	89 34.0	206 40.39
2	Illiterates No %	131 52.82	173 66.03	304 59.61

The Literacy rate of the community of male is 47.2%, female 34% and total 40.39% against the state literacy rate 70.32, 50.43 and 60.47 respectively. The literacy of the Community is noticed far below the state literacy.

b) Educational level completed (7 years & above)

Sl.No.	Class Passed	No.of Literates	Percentage over	
			Population	literates
1	Below 5 th	90	17.65	43.6
2	5 th class	41	8.39	20.0
3	7 th class	50	9.80	24.8
4	10 th class	21	4.12	9.6
5	Inter	3	0.59	1.5
6	Degree	1	0.20	0.5
7	Prof & Tech	--	--	--
8	Post Gr	--	--	--
	All	206	40.39	100.0

It is noticed that about 40% of literates of the Community is found upto Matriculation passed and the balance of 0.39% found passed Post-Matriculation. Further it is noticed that there is no Post-Graduate in this Community.

c) Literates (7 years and above)

Sl. No.	Age Group	Population	Total Literates	Percentage of Literates		Drop outs from edn.	Percent of dropouts	
				Among Age Group	Over Total Pop.		Over Persons	Over Literates
1	7-14	121	100	83.3	19.6	19	15.8	19.0
2	15-24	112	50	44.2	9.8	38	33.6	76.0
3	25-39	147	39	26.5	7.6	33	22.4	84.6
4	40-59	85	15	17.6	2.9	14	16.5	93.3
5	60+	45	2	4.4	0.4	2	4.4	100.0
	All	510	206	40.4	40.4	106	20.8	51.5

The total dropouts of the Community are 20.8% over population or 51.5% over the literates. The dropouts in the age group 7-14 years are 15.8% the same for age group 15-24 years is 33.6%.

d) Drop-outs from School/College studies with reasons (All-ages)

Sl.No.	Reason for Dropouts	No. of persons	Dropout Rate	Percentage. over pop.
1	Failed	23	14.9	3.9
2	Education not required	24	15.6	4.1
3	Marriage	22	14.3	3.7
4	To work	29	18.8	4.9
5	Poverty	50	32.5	8.5
6	Health & others	6	3.9	1.0
	All	154	100.0	26.2

Out of 206 Literates 154 (75%) are dropped out of their education due to the above reasons. The highest dropouts are noticed due to 'poverty' 32.5% and 'to work' 18.8% etc. to earn their livelihood.

4. Employment Status:

The entire surveyed population of Lodh community basing on their economic activity is divided into Working group and Non Working group. The Working group of people is consisting of Daily wage earners, Self-employed, Regular salaried and part-time workers. So also the Non-Working group of people consisting of children, students, aged, retired ill health, unemployed, housewives, and households.

a) Working and Non-Working groups of people by sex is as follows.

	Workers			Non-Workers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number	182	161	343	108	137	245
Percentage Over total	62.76	54.03	58.33	37.24	45.97	41.67

It is noticed that the Male workers constitute 62.8% whereas Female is 54.0% and total working percentage 58.3, against the state averages 56.2, 35.1 and 45.8 respectively.

b) Statement showing Economic activity among working people.

S.No	Economic activity	Sex	Number	Percent to Total pop	Percent to Working- Population
1	Daily wage in Agri.	Male	2	0.8	1.1
		Female	5	1.7	3.1
		Total	7	1.2	2.0
2	Daily wage in Non Agri.	Male	94	32.4	51.6
		Female	37	12.4	23.0
		Total	131	22.3	38.2
3	Self employed in Agri	Male	1	0.3	0.5
		Female	0	0.0	0.0
		Total	1	0.2	0.3
4	Self employed in Non-Agri	Male	72	24.8	39.6
		Female	73	24.5	45.3
		Total	145	24.6	42.3
5	Regular salaried in Govt	Male	0	0.0	0.0
		Female	0	0.0	0.0
		Total	0	0.0	0.0
6	Regular salaried in Pvt.	Male	10	3.5	5.6
		Female	1	0.3	0.6
		Total	11	1.9	3.2
7	Part time workers	Male	3	1.0	1.6
		Female	45	15.1	28.0
		Total	48	8.1	14.0
	Grand Total		343	58.3	

The majority of working people of this community are engaged in self-employment in non-agriculture (42.3%) and daily wage in non-agriculture (38.2%). It is noticed that there is no one working as Govt. employee.

5. Economic status:

Description	No.of Households	Percentage over hhs.
a) Possessing Agrl. Land	0.0	0.0
b) Type of House (residing)		
i) Pucca	6	4.5
ii) Semi pucca	91	67.9
iii) Kutcha/Huts	37	27.6
c) Having Ration cards:		
i) White	124	92.5
ii) Pink	4	3.0
iii) No card	6	4.5
d) Facilities/Amenities:		
i) Phone – Having connected	62	46.3
Not having Phone	72	53.7
ii) Drinking water in the – Yes	43	32.0
premises of households No	91	67.9
iii) Electricity connection Yes	122	91.0
	12	8.9
iv) Toilet within the premises Yes	75	56.0
	59	44.0
e) Per capita income Rs. 4611/- Per Annum		
f) Avg. Land holding = 0.0 acres.		

About 28% of households are living in kutcha houses possessing 93% of white Ration Cards, 54% of households having no phone facilities, 68% getting drinking water from out side their houses and 44% not having lavatory facilities within the premises. The Per capita income of the community is Rs.4,611/- against the State average of Rs.25,695/-.

The Commission personally visited Dhoolpet, Karvan and Alizapur areas where the Lodha Community is predominantly residing. The Commission observed that the children of age group 5 to 15 are assisting the family in preparation of Papad, Kulfi and Murukulu etc.

It is also observed that more than 70% of the population is living below poverty line and they are living in dilapidated country tiled houses, semi pucca horizon with no basic sanitary facilities in their houses. The people are engaged in making Ganesh idols, kites, rakhies, kulfi, papad and murkulu etc., which are their seasonal occupation. Some of them are engaged in the manufacture of Gudumba / Illicit distillation till recently. The Commission also observed that most of them are living insanitary and unhygienic conditions and most of them are virtually isolated from other caste and they are not treated with respect and they are looked down. The rate of literacy is very low and there are very few educated or government employees.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh in G.O.Rt.No.33, Backward Classes Welfare (M1) Department, dated 25-2-1995 requested the A.P. Commission for Backward Classes to submit an interim report in respect of this caste along with other castes. The previous Commission held public hearing and also local investigation and submitted an interim report. The Commission relied on the treatise in the "Tribes and Castes of Central Province of India" by R.V.Russel published in 1916 under the heading "Lodhi, Lodha" the Author has inter-alia stated thus:

"The Lodhis are migrants from the united provinces in whose gazetteers, it is stated that they belong originally to the Ludhiana district and took their name from it. Their proper designation is Lodha but it has become corrupted and Lodhi in the Central province. In volume-II in the series People of India, published by the Anthropological Survey of India, Lodhi is treated as Scheduled Tribe in the States of West Bengal and Orissa. The Commission relying upon the representation made by the Associations, personal inspection and investigation,

the certificate issued by the Collector with regard to the sanitary conditions of the people living, an interim report was submitted to the Government holding that Lodha, Lodhi caste is backward and recommended for its inclusion in the list.

In the book "Castes and Tribes of the Nizam's dominions" Vol.I by Syed Siraj ul Hassan, there is reference to Lodha Caste spelling it a Lodhe. The learned author observed: "Lodhe, Lodhi – an agricultural caste supposed to have come from the United Provinces, Central India and Bundel Khand."

The National Commission for Backward Classes recommended for inclusion of this caste and included at S.No.98 of OBCs of Andhra Pradesh. The National Commission relied on the observations by S.W. Crooke published under the title "The Tribes and Castes of North-west Province" and Lodh described – "Lodha as agricultural and labouring caste very widely distributed through the North-west province of Oudh". He further writes as follows: "under the name of Lodha they have found widely under Central. Province in some places they have some reputation of turbulence and deviation of the law. They seem to be comparatively recent migrants from the direction of Bundhelkand in Jhansi with Narvar the original city of the tribe after their migration from Latvinia and they came thence to Bundelkhand about a thousand years ago. They may possibly be an off shoot from the great Kurmi tribe and it is certain that physically they are more allied to the lower so called aboriginal section than to any of the higher castes. The National Commission found that the caste is socially and educationally backward and is included in the list.

The Association and their representatives have asserted that no Lodha caste member is holding any of the All India Services or any of the superior services of the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh and a few of them are holding minor and insignificant posts in Central and State Governments. On the foregoing we hold that Lodha caste is not adequately represented under the State of Andhra Pradesh. No Lodha caste member is holding any elective office or position. It is noticed that the Lodha caste is recognized and included in the Backward Class list in the States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh.

On a cumulative consideration of all the relevant facts with due regard to the principles / criteria laid down in the 'Mandal Case', we hold that the Lodha caste is socially, educationally and economically backward and inadequately represented in the services under the State of Andhra Pradesh. Considering the pathetic conditions of their living, as some are engaged in preparation and sale of illicit liquor, Ganesh Idle making, Kulfi and Murukulu. They are fit to be included under Group – B.

On the foregoing discussions we recommend to the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh holding that **Lodh, Lodhi, Lodha** is socially and educationally backward for the purposes of Articles 15(4) and 16(4) of the Constitution of India and fit to be included in the list of backward classes under **Group-B** at **S. No. 23**. Since our local enquiry revealed they are residing in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Khammam and Adilabad Districts, the area of operation shall be confined to those districts only.

**(4) PALA-EKARI, EKILA, VYAKULA, EKIRI, NAYANIVARU,
PALEGARU, TOLAGARI, KAVALI**

Sri A.M. Dharma Lingam, Founder and Organisor, Pala Ekari Association, Nagari submitted a memorandum on 25-8-1999 addressed to the then Chairman, A.P. Commission for Backward Classes, contending that Mutharasi or Mudiraj are included in BC-D Group and Pala Ekari community is also similar to that community. 80% of the people are illiterates and they may be included in the list of Backward Classes. The representationists enclosed a copy of G.O.Ms.No.166, Social Welfare (P) Department, dated 15-7-1986 wherein the caste Pala Ekari was included in Group-D at S.No.10.

Sri M.Venkata Raman, General Secretary and Sri L.Kondama Naidu, Vice President of the Pala Ekari Association submitted a memorandum to the then Chairman on 14-4-1994 contending that the people of Pala Ekari community are called as Ekira, Ekili, Ekari,Vyakari, Vyakula, Yakala, Palegar and Nayanivaru, in Anantapur, Chittoor , Cuddapah, Kurnool and Nellore districts. The people of this community are socially, educationally economically and politically backward. This community was included in the list of Backward Classes as per G.O.Ms.2035, dated 7-10-1955 and G.O.Ms.No.1504, dated 13-6-1956. It continued as Backward Class till 1970. Unfortunately Pala Ekari community was deleted from the year 1970 and subsequently on their representation, Muralidhar Rao Commission recommended for inclusion and it was included in G.O.Ms.No.166, dated 15-7-1986. Sri P.Balappa, President of Pala Ekari Association, Bangarupalem also submitted a memorandum on 29-4-1994. Several representations were submitted from time to time and similar representation was also submitted to the National Commission for Backward Classes.

In response to the notification of the Commission the Andhra Pala Ekari Welfare Association, Tirupati Division also submitted a memorandum in a booklet on behalf of Chittoor District Pala Ekari Sankshema Seva Sangham.

After the commission was reconstituted, the commission issued a notification dated 31-03-2006 which was published in A.P. Gazette dated 13-04-2006 calling for representations, objections and suggestions and the caste representatives submitted the very same representations. Subsequently the commission held public hearing on 16-05-2006 and Sri L.Kondama Naidu, Vice President, State Pala Ekari Welfare Association, Anantapur represented that their caste was recognized in 1956 as B.C. and continued till 1970. As there was no representation before the Anantharaman Commission their caste was not included in the list of Backward Classes. In Karnataka State they are called as Nayakas, Karali, Nayanivaru, Dora, Dora Bidda. Literacy rate is 2%. 1.6% is male literacy rate and 0.8% studied up to Xth Class. There are no postgraduates and there is no political representation. They live in hill areas and forests and remote places from the towns nearer to the forests. They live away from civilized society. Their community people live in Piler, Madanapally, Tamballapalli, K.V.Palli Mandals in Chittoor district. According to Andhra Sabdha Ratnakaram (dictionary) their caste is mentioned as Kirathakudu. It is meant as Kirathaka Jathi because they live in hunting of animals. Their caste appears in so many sub castes such as Vegari.

Sri J. Chandrashekar Naidu, N.Kumar, M.Raghupati, G.Seshadri Naidu, J.Rajender Naidu, P.Munilakshminarayana, K.N.Chennakeshevulu, S.Veerabhadra Naidu, R.Chandramohan Naidu, M.Surendra Naidu, A.Venkataswamy and others appeared before the commission and pleaded for inclusion of this caste.

The Commission deputed a survey team to assess the living conditions of the people and they collected the following statistical data:

Survey Results

1. Introduction:

The survey staff of the Commission conducted Local enquiries and Investigations including door-to-door sample household survey during August 2006 & October 2006 in Ananthapur & Chittoor districts. The sample household Survey covered 64 Households of this community. The traditional occupation of this community is cultivation and coolie.

2. Social Status:

All the 64 Households comprising 241 persons are living in rural (100%) area only, with household size 3.77 persons. The sex ratio of this community is 85 female per 100 male. The sex ratio of the age group of 0-14 years is 97 female per 100 male.

Results on Traditional Occupation (T.O.)

Item	Remarks	No of Households	Percentage
a) Traditional occupation in practice	Yes	30	46.9
	No	34	53.1
b) Self perception of the caste people on Traditional Occupation	Superior	2	3.1
	Inferior	9	14.1
	Normal	53	82.8
c) T.O treated by others	Superior	0	0.0
	Inferior	9	14.1
	Normal	55	85.9
d) Social discrimination	Yes	9	14.1
	No	0	0.0
	Normal	55	85.9

About 47% of households are engaged in their traditional occupation. About 14% of households reported that their traditional occupation is inferior, the same percentage of households treated as inferior and same percentage of households socially discriminated in their living localities.

3. Educational Status:

a) Sex wise literates and illiterates (7 years & above)

Sl. No	Description	Male	Female	Total
1	Literates No %	42 37.2	24 24.2	66 31.1
2	Illiterates No %	71 62.8	75 75.8	146 68.9

The male literacy rate of this community is 37.2, female 24.2 and all 31.1 in contrast with the state literacy rate 70.32, 50.43 and 60.47 respectively. The literacy rate of this community is far below (about 50%) the state literacy rate

b) Educational level completed (7 years & above)

Sl.No.	Class Passed	No. of persons	Percentage over	
			Population	Literates
1	Below 5 th	16	7.6	24.3
2	5 th class	20	9.4	30.3
3	7 th class	20	9.4	30.3
4	10 th class	8	3.8	12.1
5	Inter	2	0.9	3.0
6	Degree	0	0.0	0.0
7	P.Gr.	0	0.0	0.0
8.	Pro.Tech.	0	0.0	0.0
	All Classes	66	31.1	100.0

From the above table it is observed that about 30% of literates passed upto Matriculation but only 0.9% of literates passed post-matriculation i.e., Intermediate only and no degree passed candidate in this community.

c) Literates and dropouts (7 years and above)

Sl. No.	Age Group	Population	Total Literates	Percentage of Literates		Drop outs	Percent of dropouts	
				Among Age Group	Over Total Pop.		Over Age-Gr. Persons	Over Literates
1	7-14	38	32	84.2	15.0	10	26.3	31.3
2	15-24	44	24	54.5	11.3	18	40.9	75.0
3	25-39	55	5	9.1	2.4	5	9.1	100.0
4	40-59	62	5	8.1	2.4	5	8.1	100.0
5	60+	13	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0
	All	212	66	31.1	31.1	38	17.9	57.6

In addition to the low literacy rate of the Community the total dropouts from education is 17.9% over persons or 57.6% over literates. The dropouts of age group 7-14 years are 26.3% over persons or 31.3% over literates and the same for age group 15-24 years 40.9% over persons or 75.0% over literates.

d) Drop-outs from School/College studies with reasons (All-ages)

Sl.No.	Reason for Dropouts	No. of persons	Dropout Rate	Percentage. over pop.
1	Failed	5	13.2	2.4
2	Education not required	10	26.3	4.7
3	Marriage	1	2.6	0.5
4	To work	6	15.8	2.8
5	Poverty	16	42.1	7.5
6	Health & others	0	0.0	0.0
	All	38	100.0	17.9

The dropouts with reasons registered highest due to 'poverty' 42.1% followed by 'education not required' 26.3%, 'to work' 15.8%.

4. Employment Status:

The entire surveyed population of Pala-ekari community basing on their economic activity is divided into Working group and Non Working group. The Working group of people is consisting of Daily wage earners, Self-employed, Regular salaried and part-time workers. So also the Non-Working group of people consisting of children, students, aged, retired ill health, unemployed, housewives, and households.

a) Working and Non-Working groups of people by sex is as follows.

	Workers			Non-Workers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Number	87	67	154	43	44	87
Percentage Over total	66.9	60.3	63.9	33.1	39.6	36.1

It is noticed that the Male workers constitute 66.9% where as Female 60.3% and total working percentage 63.9 against the state work participation rates 56.23, 35.11 and 45.8 respectively. The work participation rate of the Community is higher than the state work participation because female participation is on par with male workers.

b) Statement showing Economic activity among working people.

S.No	Economic activity	Sex	Number	Percent to Total pop.	Percent to Workers- population
1	Daily wage in Agri.	Male	49	37.7	56.3
		Female	27	24.3	40.3
		Total	76	31.5	49.4
2	Daily wage in Non Agri.	Male	15	11.5	17.2
		Female	12	10.8	17.9
		Total	27	11.2	17.5
3	Self employed in Agri	Male	16	12.3	18.4
		Female	1	0.9	1.5
		Total	17	7.1	11.0
4	Self employed in Non-Agri	Male	4	3.1	4.6
		Female	7	6.3	10.4
		Total	11	4.6	7.2
5	Regular salaried in Govt.	Male	0	0.0	0.0
		Female	0	0.0	0.0
		Total	0	0.0	0.0
6	Regular salaried in Pvt.	Male	0	0.0	0.0
		Female	0	0.0	0.0
		Total	0	0.0	0.0
7	Part time workers	Male	3	2.3	3.5
		Female	20	18.0	29.9
		Total	23	9.5	14.9
	Grand Total		154	63.9	100.0

About 31.5% of workers over population or 49.4% over workers are engaged in daily wage in agriculture followed by daily wage in non-agriculture activities. Generally, the wages for daily wage is less paid and uncertainly of continuity of work. From the above table it is noticed that there is no regular salaried employee of the Community either in Govt. or on Private establishment.

5. **Economic status:**

Description	No.of Households	Percentage over hhs.
a) Possessing Agri. Land	38	59.4
b) Type of House (residing)		
i) Pucca	5	7.8
ii) Semi pucca	13	20.3
iii) Kutcha/Huts	46	71.9
c) Having Ration cards:		
i) White	59	92.2
ii) Pink	0	0.0
iii) No card	5	7.8
d) Facilities/Amenities:		
i) Phone – Having connected	3	4.7
Not having Phone	61	95.3
ii) Drinking water in the – Yes	4	6.3
premises of households No	60	93.7
iii) Electricity connection Yes	31	48.4
	33	51.6
iv) Toilet within the premises Yes	0	0
	64	100.0
e) Percapita income ..Per Annum	Rs. 3502/-	
f) Avg. Land holding ...in. acres.	1.25	

Since the surveyed households are residing in rural area, therefore, 59.4% of households reported possessing agricultural land. The average land holding of the Community is 1.25 acres.

About 72% of households are living in kutcha/ hut houses with 92.2% households having white ration cards, about 94% of households without drinking water in their premises, about 52% of households without electricity connected and 100% households without latrine facility within their premises. The Percapita income is Rs.3,502/- as against the state Percapita income of Rs. 25,695/-.

The commission personally visited the places where the said caste people are living. The commission toured Anantapur district from 29-08-2006 to 02-09-2006 and Chittoor district from 09-10-2006 to 16-10-2006. The commission toured Talupula Mandal of Anantapur district on 30-08-2006, Pakala Mandal and Nagari Mandal of Chittoor district on 10-10-2006 and 14-10-2006 where the caste people are predominantly living and the commission assessed their living conditions.

The survey results would reveal that all the households live in rural areas, about 47% are engaged in their traditional occupation who are treated as inferior and there is social discrimination. The literacy rate is very low and the school / college dropouts are more, about 72% of the households are living in Kutcha houses and most of the houses do not have basic amenities such as latrine, electricity, drinking water etc. the commission observed most of them are living in unhygienic conditions. They gather forest produce from hill areas and eke out their livelihood. Most of them are living below poverty line and their literacy rate is very low. They were included in the list of Backward Classes prior to 1970 but there is no reason as to why they were deleted in the Anantharaman Commission report. Sri N.K.Muralidhar Rao recommended for inclusion of this caste. The National Commission also included in the list of OBCs of Andhra Pradesh.

Sri N.K.Muralidhar Rao in his report at para 3.33 observed about Pala Ekari "Representations were made to the Commission in Cuddapah, Kurnool, Chittoor and Hyderabad districts from the 'Pala Ekari' community with a request to consider the inclusion of their community in the list of Backward Classes. In the past according to the G.O.Ms.No.2035, dated 7-10-1955 the Pala Ekari caste has been included in the list of Backward Classes. But the Backward Classes Commission of 1970 has deleted the community. The above race of people is

called Mouriya in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar States and Naicks in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Maharashtra States. Pala Ekari, Palayagaru in Andhra Pradesh and Tamilnadu States. Their original profession was military and Police service. Now this community has lost its past glory and the members of the community are now working in fields as agricultural labourers and gather forest produce for sale in the neighbouring villages. They are therefore looked down in the society and educationally they have not made any progress because of the environment in which the children of the community are brought up. We are informed that the literacy in this community is as low as 2%.

The National Commission for Backward Classes considered the representations given by the community, which observed that Muralidhar Rao Commission recommended the said community, which was one among the nine communities, which were recommended for inclusion in the State's List. It was further contended that the members of the community live mostly near forest and hill areas and depend on the sale of forest produce for their livelihood. The community has no representation in the political field. The literacy rate of the community is 1-2%. Most of the women in that community are engaged in agricultural labour and collection of forest produce. Their children also work to supplement the income of the family. The National Commission found that the Pala Ekari community is socially and educationally backward and fit to be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Andhra Pradesh at entry No.94.

Edgar Thurston and K.Rangachary in 'Castes and Tribes of South India' Educational Services, New Delhi, 1993, Volume-II at page 203 quotes: Ekari - This caste is summed up in the Madras Census Report, 1901, under the names Ekari, Ekali, Yakari and Yakarlu, as a sub-caste of Mutracha. Mr. H.A. Stuart writes (Manual of the North Arcot district, Madras Census Report, 1891) "Ekaris or Yakarlu are a class of cultivators and village watchmen, found chiefly

in the northern taluks of North Arcot, and in the adjoining district of Cuddapah. It is very doubtful whether the Ekaris and Mutrachas are identical castes. The census statistics are, I think, sufficient to throw grave doubt on this view. Neither name, for instance, appears as a sub-division of the other, although this would certainly be the case if they were synonymous, nor is there any similarity in the sub-divisions that are given. They are said, in the Nellore Manual, to be hunters and mercenaries and in Cuddapah where they are known to some as Boyas and Kiratas, they are classed as a forest tribe. It is clear, however, that they enjoyed some authority, for several rose to be poligars. Thus the poligars of Kallur, Tumba, Pulicherla, Bangari and Gudipati are of this caste and many of its members are village policemen. They do not wear the sacred thread, but employ Brahmans as their priests. Their ceremonies differ very little from those of the Kapus. They are flesh-eaters and their titles are Naidu and Dora. The caste possesses some interest as being that which had in 1891, the highest proportion of widowed among females between the ages of 15 and 39. Little is known of the caste history. Some assert that they were formerly Hindu cotton cleaners and that their name is derived from the verb yekuta to clean cotton. They returned 74 sub-divisions of which the most important seem to be Dodda (big) and Pala."

The approximate population of this caste is about 3 Lakhs and they are residing at Anantapur, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Nellore, Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy Districts. Most of them live in Hillocks and interior forest areas and they depend on forest produce. This caste was recognized as a backward class as per G.O.Ms. No. 2035 dated 07-10-1955 and this position continued till 1970. Considering their places of habitation in hillocks and remote forest areas and they move from place to place they deserve to be included under Group-A. They are not adequately represented in Govt. services and the political representation is not upto the mark.

The Commission considered the oral and written representations, personal inspection of the places and their dwellings and statistical data collected by the survey team. After due deliberations, we come to the conclusion that **Pala-Ekari, Ekila, Vyakula, Ekiri, Nayanivaru, Palegaru, Tolagari, Kavali** caste is socially, educationally, economically and politically backward and fit to be included in the list of Backward Classes for the purpose of Articles 15(4) & 16(4) of the Constitution of India under **Group – A** at **S.No. 45**. Since our local enquiry revealed that they are residing in Chittoor, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Nellore, Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy Districts, the area of operation shall be confined to those districts only.

V - RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COMMISSION

The commission considered the entire material available i.e., oral and written representations submitted by the representationists, survey results obtained by the survey team, the authorities relied by the commission, the guidelines contemplated to identify the backward classes in the Mandal case and other important decisions of the Apex court. The Commission after due deliberations unanimously resolved to make the following recommendations and tender the advice to the Government.

1. **Aghamudian, Aghamudiar, Agamudivellalar, Agamudimudaliar (including Thuluva Vellalas)** caste / community is socially and educationally backward and fit to be included in the list of backward classes under **Group – D** at **S. No. 39** for purposes of Articles 15 (4) & 16 (4) of the Constitution of India, confining the area of operation to Chittoor, Nellore, Kurnool, Anantapur Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy Districts only.
2. **Beri Vysya, Beri Chetty** caste / Community is socially and educationally backward and fit to be included in the list of backward classes under **Group – D** at **S. No. 40** for purposes of Articles 15 (4) & 16 (4) of the Constitution of India, confining the area of operation to Chittoor, Nellore and Krishna Districts only.
3. **Lodh, Lodhi, Lodha** caste / community is socially and educationally backward and fit to be included in the list of backward classes under **Group – B** at **S. No. 23** for purposes of Articles 15 (4) & 16 (4) of the Constitution of India, confining the area of operation to Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Khammam and Adilabad Districts only.

4. **Pala-Ekari, Ekila, Vyakula, Ekiri, Nayanivaru, Palegaru, Tolagari, Kavali** caste / community is socially and educationally backward and fit to be included in the list of backward classes under **Group – A** at **S. No. 45** for purposes of Articles 15 (4) & 16 (4) of the Constitution of India, confining the area of operation to Chittoor, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Anantapur Nellore, Hyderabad and Ranga Reddy Districts only.

5. The principles of exclusion of socially advanced persons / sections (creamy layer) already laid down by the state Govt. will automatically and naturally apply to the above classes now recommended for inclusion.

1. Justice Dalava Subrahmanyam, Chairman

2. Sri N.Laxminarayana Mudiraj, Member

3. Sri V. Krishna Mohan Rao, Member

4. Sri R.M Gonela, Member Secretary