

Bengalee refugees do not suffer from any kind of social disabilities like un-touchability, deprivation from use of public places and places of worship and other social boycotts unlike the SCs of other parts of the country. They have equal status in the society here.

With regard to their educational and economic backwardness, it is stated that they are being provided various facilities like free education to their children, seats for higher education/professional courses in the mainland, scholarship, preference in employment in services under the A & N Administration. Besides they have been identified as OBC by the A & N Commission for OBC as per its report submitted to this Administration in order to provide them reservation of jobs in services.

With regard to ethnographic details of the Bengalee refugees, the data collected and compiled in connection with the identification of OBC could be used. A separate classification table in respect of each social, educational and economic backwardness of the OBC compiled in a sample survey is placed at pages 113-115/C. But the format devised for amendment proposal is not applicable to this UT as no SCs having been notified, there is no list of SCs. So there is no question of amendment of the existing list of SCs, which is done by an Act of Parliament. Instead, if their claim for SC Status is admitted they are to be notified as Scheduled Castes under Article 341 (i) of the Constitution by the President of India (A copy of the relevant provision is placed at P.116/c).

If approved, we may send our views in the above lines to Asst. Secy. (Home). A draft reply is put up for approval, please.

Research Officer (TW)

19/7/2003

(C.F.N.T. refugees)

Director (TW)

Also please indicate the stand / policy of the UT. (87)
with regard to consideration of
any community as S.C / STs.

RO (TW)

Ritand

24.7.03

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(86)

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