

ALL INDIA Dr. AMBEDKAR SC-ST WELFARE FEDERATION

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Ref: AIASC-STWF/541372 / 2000

Date: 28-07-2000

To
The Hon'ble Chief Minister,
Govt. of Andaman & Nichobar Islands,
Port Blair, U.T. of Andaman & Nichobar Islands,

Respected Sir,

I introduce myself as a National President for All India Dr. Ambedkar SC/ST Welfare Federation. The Federation which was established on 4th May, 1998 has been functioning at Chennai since then. As of now, it has established contacts and developed rapport with little over 5 lakhs Organisations, Associations and State-level Federations set up for the welfare of SC/ST people.

The chief objective of the Federation is to unite all the SC/ST people under one umbrella and to espouse their grievances for appropriate remedy and relief.

2) With the above objective in view, the Federation has initiated very many measures to safeguard the interests of SC/ST people. One such measure relates to the prevailing gap between the percentage of reservation and that of the population. The Federation undertook a survey for SC/ST population in various States / Union Territories in order to study whether the percentage of reservation is in accordance with the population of those States / Union Territories. The survey revealed the existence of glaring gap in certain States and Union Territories. As a matter of fact, the percentage of reservation for SC/ST is below the percentage of population in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Tripura and West Bengal. The gap is between 1 to 2%. Similarly, the percentage of reservation for SC is very low in the Union Territories of Chandigarh and Delhi.

3) As regards to ST reservation is concerned, the shortfall is noticed in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Tripura, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Nagaland followed by Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu in Union Territories. The details of percentage of SC/ST population vis-à-vis reservation is enclosed.

4) The findings of the survey has prompted us to appraise the position to the Chief Executives of the concerned States/Union Territories and requested them to step-up the percentage of reservation in proportion to population. As a result of our sustained efforts, the Government of Gujarat has increased the percentage of reservation for ST people (copy enclosed).

5) Another area of concern pertains to the brutal killings and other atrocities committed against SC/ST people. The Federation collected information pertaining to the crimes committed against the SC/ST people in various States and Union Territories from year 1992 to 1998 (copy enclosed). Consequently, the Federation has written to the Chief



Facade of the Administrative Office at Chennai