



No. 12017/02/2018-SCD (R.L. Cell)
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
New Delhi, dated: 11.03.2019

To,

The Chief Secretaries to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

Subject: Expeditious verification of caste status and imposing of punishment on persons holding false Scheduled Caste certificates and against those who were responsible for issue of such certificates.

Sir,

I am directed to say that Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in its Thirtieth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) has expressed concern over a spurt in number of cases of false caste certificates and delay in the verification of social status certificates. The Committee has recommended imposing of heavy fine and imprisonment on the holders of false Scheduled Caste certificates and those who have issued Scheduled Caste certificate to ineligible persons, carelessly or deliberately without proper verification.

2. In this regard, attention is invited to Ministry of Home Affairs letter No. BC 12025/1/82-SC&BCD.IV, dated 29.06.1982 (copy enclosed), addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments /Union Territory Administrations requesting them to take strict measures to detect such cases of non-Scheduled Caste persons holding false Scheduled Caste certificates, deprive them of benefits that they are not entitled to and impose penalties and take legal action against them and against those who are responsible for the issue of such certificate strictly and expeditiously.

3. Reference is also invited to this Ministry's letter No. 12017/10/2002-SCD (R.L.Cell) dated 01.01.2003 (copy enclosed) addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/ UT Administrations requesting them that the verification of caste status may be done expeditiously as per procedure prescribed by the Supreme Court in the case of Madhuri Patil and Anr. Vs. Additional Commissioner, Tribal Development Department and Ors. (1995 AIR 94). So that constitutional obligations intended for the benefit and advancement of the genuine Scheduled Caste persons are not defeated by unscrupulous persons.

4. All the State Governments /U.T. Administrations are requested to issue necessary instructions to all the officials under their control who are empowered to issue social status certificates to take proper care before issuing them. These officials may also be informed that action would be taken against them under the relevant provisions of Indian Penal Code, if any of them is found to have issued certificates carelessly and without proper verification. Further, instructions may also be issued to the officials who have been assigned the job of verification of social status certificates to complete the verification expeditiously. Action should be taken against the officials who deliberately delay the process of verification.

Encl: as above.

Yours faithfully,



(Rashmi Chowdhary)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India