

D.G.N.O. 5681 contd/47
Ref. No. S. 8124/3147
SHREE BHAWAN,
287, SANDHURST ROAD,
BOMBAY.
1. Camp Nagpur. 20/3/1917

May 3

Dear Mr. Syenger.

This is to trouble you a lit
Shri Thakkar Bapa desired me to
accompany him during the course of the
Advisory Committee (Partially Excluded
peas) in the Province of Bombay & C.P.

This has given me a very good
opportunity of studying the problem of
the Aboriginal tribes among whom I
have been working for the last 25 yrs.

Will you be pleased to let

me have a copy of the Factual
memorandum specially prepared by
you office of Mr. Dr. Emily and a copy
which has been given to every
member of the Advisory Committee
I promise you to keep it confidential
and not to give it away publicly
I desire to have a copy of it for study.

I am writing to you because Mr.
Rao a Dy. and the Deputy Secretary may
not be able to give me one, knowing him as I do.

Ref No. 566 Com 142
S.N. 24/5/1973

Dakshin Bharat Adivasi Sevak Sangh,

Hony. President :

Honble. Mr. K. Bashyam, B.A.B.L., M.L.A.,
Minister for Law, Madras.

3
6, Memorial Hall St.,

Working President :

Mr. V. Raghaviah, B.A.B.L., M.L.A.,
Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier, Madras.

MADRAS.

Dated, 15th March 1947

Working Secretaries :

Prof. P. C. Reddy, M. A., L. L. B., F. R. E. S.

Mr. V. M. Ghatikachalam, D. Com., F. Int. A.C., F.A.I.A., (Lond).

The Secretary,
Aborigines Sub-Committee,
Office of the Constituent Assembly,
New Delhi.

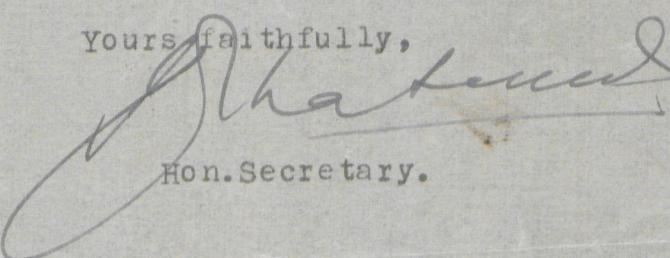
~~Ms. cont~~

Dear Sir,

We see from the press reports that a Commission of the Aborigines Sub-Committee will be visiting various parts of the Presidency in order to collect information about the conditions of aborigines and chalk out plans for tackling their problems. We are greatly interested in your work and shall be glad to know when you propose visiting Madras. Please send us any questionnaire if you have prepared so that we can express our views.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


Hon. Secretary.



Mr. S. 24/3

Sy. No 695 - At 12/4/47 C. Sec.

5

D.O. NO D 1167.P.S/67

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

External Affairs Department,
New Delhi, ^{9th April} ~~3rd March~~ 1947.

Dear Sir,

I am desired by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to acknowledge with thanks the following telegram:

"All hill people strongly protest sub-committee's co-option of Sneshakumar Chakma a student residing outside hill tracts many years and not accorudited (accredited) representative kindly instruct co-option of Mr Kokandaksha Ray of largest tribe and only M.A. Hill tracts also Mr. Wootun Phroo from second largest tribe otherwise disturbance inevitable awaiting favourable Reply."

~~Hereunder~~ Yours faithfully,

~~At your service~~ (Tarlok Singh)

Private Secretary to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Abaniranjan Dewan, Esq.,
President,
Chittagong Hill Areas,
Hillmen Association,
CHITTAGONG POST.

M.S. 11/4

Prefix

X Code PL

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT.

004486

Regd.

Office stamp

No. 145

Date

15/9

1947

Service Instructions



75
1947

Chittagong Post 26

TO secretary advisory sub-committee other than Assam
secretary advisory sub-committee other than Assam
to chief secretary Bengal govt ch.

= all Hill men extremely mortified your
cooption snehakumar Chakma a student
residing outside Hill Tracts many years
and not accredited representative appear
= thy fond misrepresentation kindly coopt
Mr Kokanadaksha Ray of largest
Tribe and only 1 of Hill Tracts
also Mr woosaw Phroo of second
largest

Reply Sent
File in
J.W.

137

59



INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE

C 29

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram

Handed in at Office of Origin	Date	Hour	Minute	Service Instructions	Words
New Delhi	30	11	25	Excluded	28 M.

TO Rama Dhyani secretary Areas Committee Cafeteria Secretary Cuttack
Handed here at 2H 28 M.

-Caf 41/com 47 following telegram received from chittagong quote all

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the text.

20

INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE.	Charge to pay.			Office Stamp
	Rs.	Ars.		
This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram				
Handed in at (Office of Origin). Date <u>2</u> Hour <u>2</u> Minute.			Service Instructions	Words.
TO hill people strongly protest ^{Recd here at} communist cooption of shera kumar chakma a student residing of outside hill tracts many years and not accredited representative kindly instead cooption of mr kokandaksha ray of largest			H.	M.

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the text.

INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE.

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram

				Charge to pay.	Office Stamp
				Rs.	A.s.
Handed in at (Office of Origin).	Date	Hour	Minute.	Service Instructions	Words.
TO tribe a hill tract <small>Read here at</small>				H.	M.
also mr footam phoro from second largest tribe (50) otherwise disturbance inevitable awaiting favourable reply abanis ranjan dewan president chittagong hill tracts hill men association					

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the text.

12

INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE.	Charge to pay.		Office Stamp
	Rs.	As.	
This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram			
Handed in at (Office of Origin).	Date	Hour	Minute.
TO <u>unqual</u>	Recd here at		H. M.

= Constitution

*L.H.
P.M.*

~~#~~ 11

16

INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

B7 gr 60

NOTICE

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram

Charge to pay.

Rs.

A.M.

Office Stamp



Handed in at (Office of Origin).

Date

Hour

Minute

Service Instructions

Words.

TO

Udaiyagiri Gan 28/15/1

Recd here at

19 H. 36. M.

*Secretary excluded
are as committee cuttack
pray allow representation udaiyagiri
Public = Ralji*

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the text.

H.E.I.C.O.
12
127

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT



NOTICE.

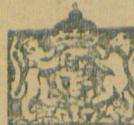
*This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram

Handed in at (Office of Origin).	Date	Hour	Minute.	Charge to pay.	Office Stamp
				Ru.	Ars.
Phulbani	28.14/50	0	0		24
TO Secretary excluded				Recd here at 19/40.	H.M.
are as sub committee care of chief secretary orissa govt. ck					
= pray allow representation khond Samajia at phulbani					
= Khond Samajia Secretary					

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the text.

143
13
18
P

INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE.

This form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this telegram

Charge to pay.

Rs.

A.

Office Stamp

Handed in at (Office of Origin),

Date

Hour

Minute.

Service Instructions

Words.

TO

Secretary excluded
area sub committee care of chief
Secretary orissa govt cuttack
= Pray allow representation of Orissa
royals at phulbani
= Secretary orissa royals

Recd here at

H.

M.

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the text.

15 Dy No 676 dt 9/4/47 Co - Sec
Communist Party of India

DARJEELING DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Secretary : ~~G. S. SUBBA~~ Ratanlal Brahmin, M.L.A.
(Bengal).

DARJEELING,

Dated the 5th April 1947.

*To
Has been informed
Cc. Mayor K. C.
Ratna
Subba*
Hon'ble Messrs. Jagjivan Ram, Jaipal Singh & others,
Members Sub Committee of the Advisory Committee appointed
by the Constituent Assembly,
Darjeeling Camp.

Sirs,

We, the undersigned, have the honour to draw your attention to the following facts for favour of your kind perusal.

The Constituent Assembly has appointed you to gather reports on the excluded and partially excluded areas and the peoples living in these areas. Darjeeling District is also a partially excluded area and you as members of the Sub Committee of the Advisory Committee appointed by the Constituent Assembly, have come here to gather reports from officials and non-officials alike. Our Party here is one of the leading political parties of this district. And we hope you will be kind enough to meet our representatives and hear our opinion and suggestions. We have already written to the Deputy Commissioner on the 27th March requesting him to include our representatives in the panel of names of leading men of the district with whom you will meet and discuss the future of the district of Darjeeling. The Deputy Commissioner replied that he has already submitted his proposals to the Government and that he would let us know on receiving a reply. We have not as yet heard anything more from him in this regard.

However we hope you will kindly fix up a date to meet us during your stay here in Darjeeling and inform us as to the date, time and place of the meeting.

Thanking you in anticipation of an early reply,

We have the honour to be,
Sirs,

Your most obedient servants,

1. *Ratna lal Brahmin*

Say/- Ratnalal Brahmin, M.L.A.

2. *G. S. Subba*

Dy. No. 679 dt 10/4/47 Com. Sec.

16 679

21

भिल सुधार समिती, धुळे, पश्चिम कान्हदेश

[सन १८६० च्या ऑक्ट २१ प्रमाणे नोंदलेली]

जावक नंबर 2496

Dhulia W.K.

मुकाम

From

दिनांक 5-4-1947.

V.G. Javdekar Esqr. B.A.LL.B.

Hon. Secretary, Bhil Sudhar Samiti,
Dhulia.



The Chairman,
Excluded and Partially Excluded Area
Sub-Committee, Constituent Assembly,
New Delhi.

1. While your sub-committee was on tour in West Khandesh, my Samiti, which has been working in Bhil Area for an all-round uplift of the Bhils during the last ten years, did not, unfortunately, get an opportunity to place its views before the Committee and therefore, I am doing it by sending this letter.

2. In routine fields of improvement, such as Free Primary Education and Free Medical Relief, my Samiti has done its best by opening 120 Voluntary Schools and 100 Medical Centres by this time. Exhibits One and Two will give you a rough idea about the humble work done by the Samiti in this respect. Much more expansion and many more facilities are necessary in this respect.

3. But I will try to impress upon you such aspects of the amelioration of the condition of the Bhils as, perhaps, might not have been touched by others. One of them is the building up of Character. My Samiti thinks that Character is the backbone of good human life and if it be wanting, human life would be like that of other animals. So the Samiti has introduced moral training in its schools. Exhibit 3 will give you some idea about the Samiti's work in this direction. The Samiti requires the Committee to develop this part among the Bhils.

4. The marital ties amongst the Bhils are very loose and hence a Bhil can share very ~~little~~ little happiness of stable family life. On account of the Zagada system amongst them husbands and wives can change hands at their sweet will and can choose any other partner at any time. Rascals among the non-Bhils, whether a Hindu or a Mohomedan, take advantage of this looseness and seduce young Bhil girls with immunity. What a great proportion this seduction has achieved, you will come to know from Exhibit 4.

I beg to draw your attention to the touching remarks on this leaflet, of the Hon. Mr. G.V. Mavlankar, the President of the Central Legislature Assembly. He says "Your statements are very revealing. The question, as you rightly point, is not whether the women are taken away by Hindus or Muslims. It is really a question of the demoralisation of the Bhils." So with all possible efforts, this looseness, seduction and demoralisation must be stopped and my Samiti sincerely wishes that the Committee pays its special attention to this part of the improvement of the Bhils.

6 enclosures

Send to Retoster
600 Rebuttal to
D.S. along with the report
16/4

5. The question of morals is, I believe, quite allied with the question of religion. But the irony of fate for this ignorant mass of humanity is that though a Bhil is decidedly a Hindu by religion, he is not so classed by Govt. in its census report of 1941. In this report, Govt. has shown a Bhil's religion as "Tribal Religion". Only Govt. knows what this vague expression means. The Samiti cannot make anything out of it.. That a Bhil is a perfect Hindu, you will come to know from Exhibit 5. The Samiti, therefore, requests that the Committee should take steps to class a Bhil as a Hindu and as a Hindu, he should be given a definite code of morals and should receive a special training in this respect.

6. The Samiti brings to the notice of the Committee the fact that there is proselytation of the Bhils by Christian Missionaries and encroachments by and propaganda for Muslimism are not rare. There are five Bhil states in West Khandesh and unfortunately, the chiefs of three of them are converts to Mohomedanism. Before twenty years, their conversion did not practically mean any substantial harm to their Hindu subjects. But during recent years, the whole aspect has changed. The reasons are now obvious to everybody. These convert chiefs, with their assistants, are now reported to have taken to propagate Islamism. The Muslim propaganda of one Musa Niksal is so notorious, that his mischievous activities were a subject before the Provincial Backward Class Board about a year ago. My revered A.V.Thakkar Bappa, knows this fact. He was then propagating Islamism at the direct cost of Government. He is now doing the same thing and with more vigour at the cost of the Kathi State, which is a ward of Govt. and as such is managed by Govt!! The Samiti earnestly requests that the Committee should be pleased to take early steps to prevent Christian and Muslim encroachments upon this ignorant tribe of about 3½ lacs of innocent souls in West Khandesh.

7. The Bhils in the States of Rayasingpur, Gangtha and Kathi are put to harassment in several ways. Some of these are mentioned in Exhibit 6, a notification published by the Collector of West Khandesh with respect to the Kathi State. The same state of affair exists in the Rayasingpur and the Gangtha States also. In these states, there is practically a terrorism amongst the Bhils who are made foreign to any civil right of a citizen. The Samiti, therefore, prays that the Committee should be kind enough to make a thorough enquiry into this extremely miserable state of affairs.

8. In short, the Samiti thinks that poverty, illiteracy and moral degradation are the root causes of all the evils amongst the Bhils and the sooner Govt. take measures to remove these causes, the better. The Samiti will be glad to have an opportunity to discuss these and other points personally and if possible, such an opportunity may be given before the Committee sits down to write its report on the Bhils of West Khandesh.

Yours truly,

V. G. Jaradker

Hon. Secy.

By 30th

17

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association.

22

RANGAMATI,
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

Memo No. 32

Dated 14/3/ 1947.

To

The Chairman, Advisory Sub-Committee,
Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas, Bengal.
C/O. The Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal.
Writers Building, Calcutta.

Sir,

On behalf of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association, I have the honour to submit herewith the names of the delegates and office-bearers for interview with the members of the Advisory Sub-Committee for excluded and partially excluded areas, Bengal, on the 2nd. or 3rd. April 1947, at Rangamati, from 11 A.M. to 1 P.M. provided it is convenient to the members of the above Committee :-

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Kumar Ramani Mohan Roy. | (Advisor to the Association) |
| 2. Mr. Kokonadaksha Roy. M.A. | Do |
| 3. Mr. U. T. Phrue. | Do |
| 4. Mr. Bhagaban Chandra Barman. | Do |
| 5. Mr. Abani Ranjan Dewan. | President |
| 6. Mr. Arindom Chandra Dewan. | Secretary |
| 7. Mr. Arun Roy. | Asst. Secretary |

I hope to be kindly favoured with an early reply intimating the final date, place and time of interview.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.

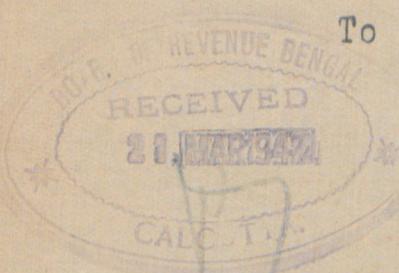
Arindom Chandra Dewan.
Secretary

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen
Association

dy 31 E.A (year)

18

225 19/47 ER
A.2



To

The Secretary,

The Advisory Sub-committee, Excluded and Partially
Excluded Area, Bengal, c/o The Chief Secretary,
Government of Bengal.

Sir,

I beg to request the favour of an appointment for an interview with all the members of the sub-committee when they will be pleased to visit this Excluded Area, Chittagong Hill tracts, in order to enable me to put up my views before them.

I beg to state that my name will be found in the Bengal quarterly Civil list and also that, being a Khas Mulakati I have had the honour and privilege of private interviews with His Excellency the Governor etc.

I beg further to add that I was a member of the Provincial Cotton Committee, Non-official visitor to the Local Govt. of the local school committee, of the Chittagong District Board, of the General Hospital Committee, and was invited by the Minister of Bengal to accompany the Royal Agricultural Commission to Europe as the only representative of Bengal, after an interview with Lord Linlithgow, having been deputed by the Deputy Commissioner to meet the Royal commission on behalf of Chittagong Hill tract.

I beg humbly therefore to pray that an interview with them may kindly be arranged and an appointment made.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Dated, Chittagong.

I beg to remain,

The 17th March '47.

Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Kumar Ramani Mohan
Roy

Received
on Transfer
from Govt. Secy.
B.M.B.

19

By 292.A (Gen)

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association. 26/29(w)

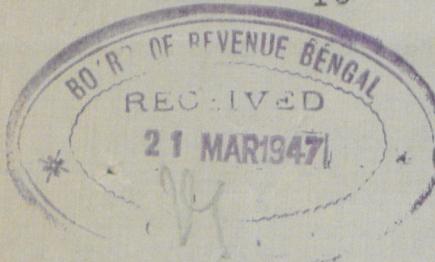
Memo No. 35. A.

RANGAMATI.
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

Dated 18. 3. 1947.

To

Camp, Chittagong.



The Secretary,
Advisory Sub-Committee,
Excluded and partly Excluded Area, Bengal.
(Other than those of Assam)
c/o The Chief Secretary,
Govt. of Bengal,
Writers' Building,
Calcutta.

Sir,

of
*Today I will
we receive
a communical from
The royal
will. Now we
an Autome it
Please
South
re 1947*
I beg leave to request you to intimate to the members of the Sub-Committee who are expected to visit The Chittagong Hill Tracts (Excluded area, Bengal) by the 1st to 6th April next that the office bearers of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association and the following gentlemen as representatives of the hill people pray for an interview with them during their visit to this excluded area, to put the views of the mass public at their disposal regarding the ensuing change of administration of this land.

Names of representatives.

1. Kumar Ramani Mohan Roy

Representative.

contd. 6/1/47

(3)

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association. 25

Memo No.



RANGAMATI,
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

Dated 1947

Name s. of representatives.

Representative.

1. Mr. Kumar Ramani Mohan Roy.) Chakma)
2. Mr. Kokonadaksha Roy.) circle.)
3. Mr. U. T. Phroo.) Bhomong)
4. Dewan B. C. Barman.) Mong)
5. Babu Abani Ranjan Dewan,) circle.)
6. ,,, Arindan Dewan,))
7. Mr. Arun Roy, Asst. ,,) office bearers
) of the Chittagong
) Hill Tracts Hill-
) men Association.

I, therefore, beg to request you to be pleased to arrange an engagement of interview and to intimate to me in time at our office at Rangamati.

Thanking you in anticipation.

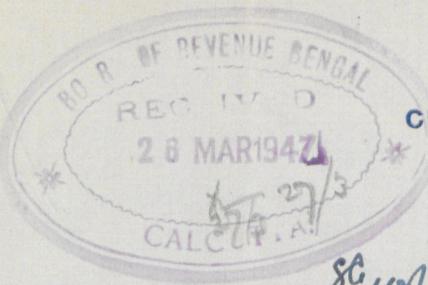
I have the honour to be,
sir,
Your most obedient servant.

Abani Ranjan Dewan
President,
The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Asso.



20

26



RANGAMATI,
RAJBARI,
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.
18.3.47.

Dear Sir,

SC
24-27

I hope by this time my D. O. No.68-C, dated the 3rd February 1947 has been placed before the Sub-Committee as communicated by Assistant Secretary to the Constituent Assembly by his D. O. No.CA/27/Com/47. We are glad to find in the publication of the news papers that the Sub-Committee will be visiting Chittagong Hill Tracts and Darjeeling in Bengal from the 1st. April to the 6th. April and will take the evidence of experts, officials, non-officials, representatives of the tribes and office bearers of associations. We the three Chiefs of the Hill Tracts viz. the Chakma Chief, Bohmong Chief and Mong Chief wish to interview the above Sub-Committee to place our views before them. I shall therefore be obliged if you would kindly let me know at what place and by what date and time the Committee will find it convenient to meet us. If we are intimated timely we would like to bring several representatives from the various tribes who reside in the interior.

P. T. O.



Thanking you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature, appearing to read "J. A.", is written below the printed "Yours sincerely,"

To

The Secretary of the Members of the Sub-Committee
for Excluded and partially Excluded Areas (other than
Assam) C/O The Chief Secretary, Government of Bengal,
Calcutta.



21
27
RANGAMATI,
RAJBARI,
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

22.3.47

D. O. No. 135

To

*Carry back
short
time* The Members of the Sub-Committee for Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (other than Assam), Bengal.

Dear Sirs,

In continuation of my D. O. No. 133 dated 18.3.47 I would feel honoured if all the members of the Sub-Committee could come and have tea afternoon tea at my Rajbari at Rangamati where the other two Chiefs will also be invited, on any date suitable to you during your stay here. I have also arranged a few exhibition dances of our several hill tribes. As the time for intimation is very limited I would be grateful if I could be informed by wire of your acceptance.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

Kalinaksala Ray

22

Recd at
10pmV.W.P.M.
Feb 25. 1947

28

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INDIAN POSTS AND



TELEGRAPHHS DEPARTMENT

X PL

NOTICE.

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Handed in at (Office of Origin).	Date	Hour	Minute.	Service Instructions	Words.
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TO Shillong Post	26	Post		Recd here at	H. M.
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The secretary advisory sub committee Excluded areas other than assam & chief secretary Bengal post Ct-
 = Learning snetakumar chakrha has been
 Crooked from the Chakma Tribe the maghs demand a member from them we recommend
 Mr woother Phrov as suggested by the

N. B - The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the tex.

magh public mass otherwise genuine



29

INDIAN POSTS & TELEGRAPHS



TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

NOTICE.

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				Charge to pay	Office Stamp
				Rs. As.	
Handed in at (Office of Origin).	Date	Hour	Minute.	Service Instructions	Words.
TO (genuine) H				Recd here at 28/12	H. M.
Views and opinion of the maghs will not be available = Bohmong - Chakma and mong chif					

N. B.—The name of the Sender, if telegraphed is written after the text.

DY 13/68
R.R. 13/4/47 S(40)1/a
Bengalee Association, Darjeeling.

23

30

From

Rai Bahadur B. M. Chatterjee, B.L.,
President, Bengalee Association,
Darjeeling.

To

The Secretary to the Sub-Committee for
Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas,
C/o The Chief Secretary to the Government
of Bengal,
Writers Buildings, Calcutta.

Dated Darjeeling the 25th March 1947.

Sir,

I am desired by the Bengalee Association,
Darjeeling to forward herewith an extract from the
minutes of the proceedings of a meeting of the Bengalee
Association, Darjeeling, held on the 23rd March 1947
from which it will be seen that the Bengalee community of
Darjeeling are desirous of placing their views before the
Sub-Committee for Excluded and partially Excluded Areas
on their visit to Darjeeling.

I am accordingly to request you to be good
enough to arrange for an interview with the following
persons who have been deputed to appear before the Sub-
Committee to place the views of the Bengalee community
of Darjeeling :-

1. Rai S. Sanyal Bahadur, M.A., B.L.,
2. Dr. J. M. Sen Gupta, M.B.,

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

M. Chatterjee

President,
Bengalee Association, Darjeeling.

Enclo:- Extract.

Extract from the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting of the Bengalee Association, Darjeeling, held on the 23rd March 1947.

**

**

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31

RESOLVED THAT AN OFFER BE MADE ON BEHALF OF THE BENGALEE ASSOCIATION TO GIVE EVIDENCE AT THE SITTING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE FOR EXCLUDED AND PARTIALLY EXCLUDED AREAS ON THEIR VISIT TO DARJEELING IN ORDER TO PLACE BEFORE THE COMMITTEE THE VIEWS OF THE BENGALEE COMMUNITY AND THAT RAI S. SANYAL BAHADUR AND DR. J. M. SEN GUPTA BE DEFUNTED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE FOR THE AFORESAID PURPOSE.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE C/O THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

24

dy N. 763/Com/47
dt 22/4/47

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association.

Memo No. 48

RANGAMATI,
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

Dated 7/4/ 1947.

To

The Chairman, Advisory Sub-Committee,
Excluded and partially Excluded Areas
(other than Assam).

Sir,

This is to enlighten the members of the Sub-Committee for Excluded and partially Excluded Areas (other than Assam), ~~in~~ that at the interview at Rangamati Circuit house in the 4th April '47, the party led by Babu Kamini Mohan Dewan, President Chittagong Hill Tracts Peoples Association, consisted of all Government officers, as follows:-

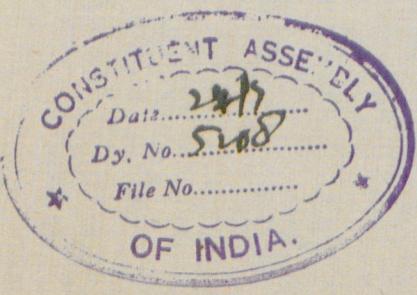
- (1) Babu Rajendra Nath Talukder, B.A. B.T. Asst. Teacher
Rangamati Government High School.
- (2) Babu Nirode Ranjon Dewan, B.A. B.T. Sub-Inspector of Schools
Chittagong Hill Tracts.
- (3) Babu Bipuleswer Dewan, B.A. Asst. Teacher Rangamati Govt.
High School.

Being the Government officers they can not be by any means the true representatives of the people. So the public protest that their views have been entirely misrepresented by these Government officers party, and request the learned members of the Sub-Committee not to take their evidence as authentic.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant.


Autwan
Secretary

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association.

763/can/17
dt 12/4/33

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen Association.

Memo No. 47

RANGAMATI,
CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS.

Dated 7/4/ 1947.

To

R. K. Ramdhaniyi, Esqr. I.C.S.

Secretary Advisory Sub-Committee,

Excluded and partially Excluded Areas,

(other than Assam).

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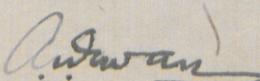
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Secretary

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Hillmen
Association.

87. No 745 dt 18/4/47 Com. Sec.

THE CATHOLIC ASSOCIATION, JUBBULPORE. 34

(FOUNDED 1945.)

V. RODRIGUES VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. A. D. SOARES, M. R. C. S. (Eng.), D. P. H. (Lond.),
D. T. M. & H. (Lond.), L. M. (Dub.).
"HOLMWOOD", PACHTEDI.

VICE-PRESIDENT

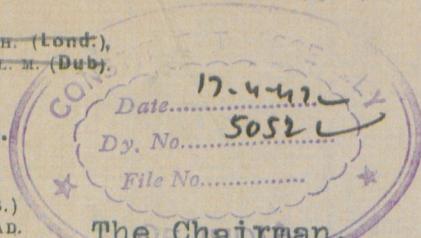
Major P. BERNARD, A. I. R. O.
"BERNADELLI", DENNING ROAD.

HON. SECRETARY

O. R. FERNANDEZ, B. A. (Hons.)
"TWAINDELL", 78/2 NERBUDDA ROAD.

HON. TREASURER

T. F. FINNIGAN, Esq.
9, G. C. FACTORY ESTATE.



Jubbulpore 14th April 1947.

The Chairman,
Sub-Committee for Excluded and Partially Excluded
Areas (except those in Assam)
Of the Advisory Committee of the Constituent
Assembly,

Sir,

At a Meeting of this Association held on 11-4-1947 the following resolution was passed unanimously, and I have the honour to forward the same to you. Resolved that :-

"The Catholic Association, Jubbulpore, deeply regrets to note that the Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly, for the Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas (except those in Assam), when visiting the district of Mandla recently made enquiries into the Area and its Aborigines within a period of two days only and completely ignored the Catholic Missionaries there; this band of workers, vowed to poverty and chastity, have been in the district for over ten years, labouring selflessly, diligently and loyally for the uplift of the Gonds; they run a number of Primary Schools and even a Normal School, and endeavour to safeguard and promote the economic interests of the people; in spite of financial and other difficulties, including a virulent campaign against them at one time by Mr. Verrier Elwin, they have ^{persevered} ~~preserved~~ with love and zeal; naturally, they are well acquainted with the local Aboriginal problem, and their services have been recognised by the Provincial Aboriginal Tribes Enquiry Officer; and yet, strangely, the Sub-Committee interviewed not one of these true servants of the people."

14 April 1947.

35

Copies of this resolution to be sent to the Chairman of the Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas Sub-Committee, Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the Constituent Assembly, Chairman of the Minorities Sub-Committee, President of the Joint Committee of the Catholic Union of India and the All-India Conference of Indian Christians, and the President of the Catholic Union of India."

Yours faithfully,

J.H. Fernandez

HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARY.

An Humble Representation before the Constituent Assembly.

Enquiry Committee Re: Partially Excluded Area--
Darjeeling District.

The humble Representation of about One lakh people being the inhabitants of Terai (Siliguri Sub-Division)

Most respectfully sheweth:-

(1). The situation of the District of Darjeeling is peculiar and that of the plains section of the District viz. The Siliguri Sub-Division, better known as Darjeeling-Terai, is all the more peculiar. The plains section is mostly inhabited by Rajbangsi Khatriyas (who were recorded as Schedule during the last Reforms) and the other inhabitants of this Sub-Division are other class Hindus. The percentage of Muslem inhabitants is not more than 3%.

(2). For purposes of Legislature, this Sub-Division is -- amalgamated with the District of Jalpaiguri and not with the other Sub-Divisions of the District.

(3). Jalpaiguri-Cum-Siliguri have three seats only in the Legislature of which one is general and the two are reserved for Scheduled Castes people. Practically local inhabitant of this Sub-Division cannot get any chance to be returned from this Electorate in view of the negligible minority of voters of this Sub-Division. For purposes of Election this Sub-Division neither wants to be amalgamated with Jalpaiguri nor with the rest of the District in joint Electorate. There should be two Non-Mohammedan General Seats--One for Hills Section (Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Kurseong) and the Other for Plains Section viz. Siliguri Terai or in the alternative One Reserved seat for Scheduled Caste people (from out of three for Jalpaiguri) should be transferred to this Sub-Division, as a reserved Seat, for the Plains Section of Darjeeling District.

(4). None of the Local Bodies viz. District Board and Local Boards are represented by members by election -- the system of nomination still prevails. This is against all democratic principles. Election should at once be introduced in District and Local Board Elections.

(5). Re: Khas Mohul Tenancy:-

Terai Khas Mohul is a Crown Estate. So, when powers are

are ceded to Indian hands this Crown Estate will automatically come under the Khas management of the National Government.

The existing system should prevail with certain modifications viz. (1). There should not be periodical enhancement of the rent of the Jotedars; (2). No periodical Survey is necessary after 20 years for the purpose of enhancement of ~~Revenue~~^{bail} Revenue. (3). Enhancement of revenue means the automatic enhancement of rent of the under tenants. (4). Present price of staple food crops due to abnormal conditions and circumstances prevailing in the Country, should not be taken as the basis of fresh settlements. (5) Settlement of 20 and 30 years prevailing now should be increased to Settlement of 50 years, to ameliorate the condition of the Jotedars and under tenants and raiyats. No enhancement of rent or Revenue should be allowed for the current Settlement due to distressed condition of the people.

(6). Special facilities with regard to education and living of the most backward people of this tract viz. the Rajbangsi-Khatris particularly and other minorities should be given in Legislation.

(7). Re: Autonomy of the Province.

(a). We want an undivided India -- with zonal autonomies with a strong centre at the head. If Bengal is separated from the rest of India, that will jeopardise the interest of the Hindus--both and Caste and Schedule. So, Hindu Bengal shall oppose this idea.

(b). There should be joint Electorate introduced in Bengal if Bengal is to be kept unpartitioned, so that the brute majority of one section may not control the destiny of half the population of the province according to their wishes.

(c). Failing a joint Electorate, there should be two zonal divisions in Bengal, with two separate Electorates, so that Hindu majority Districts of Bengal may be well under the protection of the Centre, and this District viz. Darjeeling, and particularly Siliguri Sub-Division, where there is more than 95 % Hindus of all castes, should come under the Hindu Zone along with Presidency Division Burdwan Division and some other Districts of East Bengal with Calcutta as its capital and Darjeeling District, Jalpaiguri District and Dinajpore District in North Bengal.

If Bengal is partitioned on this basis, the powers of the major communities will be equi-balanced and there will not be any future cause for communal riots or Civil War.

In having this zonal partition of Bengal in two zones viz. Muslim majority Zone and Hindu Majority Zone, which will be under the Centre, provision must be kept for reservation of Seats for the ~~intelligentsia~~ Scheduled caste people in both the Zones to safeguard the interest of the Scheduled caste people--and the proportion of adult population--adult franchise should at once be allowed.

(d). There should not be any special zone or province in Bengal as "Excluded area or Hills Section Zone" The creation of such an extra province will go to weaken the proposed Hindu Zone in Bengal.

(8). There is one Khas Department of the Government in this District known as the 'Darjeeling Improvement Fund' which is under the Administration of the Deputy Commissioner of the District without any Council. In view of the fair progress the Country has achieved, this Department should be abolished and in the interest of good of the people, this Department should be merged in the District Board, which should be a democratic Body on election basis.

Last but not least prayer is that we the Siliguri Sub-Division people representing various sheds of ~~intelligentsia~~ Political opinion representing various Institutions and Associations and Bodies, pray for a special Interview with the Hon'ble Member on his way back, so that we may represent our views more comprehensively and elaborately in view of the impending change the Country is going to have.

People of Siliguri Sub-Division headed by Mr. B.N. Roy Sarkar, Mr. U.N. Das and Mr. P.K. Basu.

B.N. Roy Sarkar
Upendrakumar Das
P.K. Basu

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B.N. Roy Sarkar
Upendravarayan Das
P.K. Basu

29

dy No 772/Com/47
dt 23/4/47

39

Sir,

As instructed by Marang Ganke Taiyal Singh
I am sending you herewith a copy of Memorial from
Adibasi Sabha for favour of necessary action.

Kindly accept my best compliments.

Hoping to be pardoned for the trouble.

Yours Sincerely.

Nagpur 3
17.4.47

SGovindram

To,

Mr. R. K. Ramadhyani, I.C.S.
Secretary of the Sub- Committee
Constituent Assembly
New Delhi

From, Subadar Rai Sahib Goindram Maolawi
Bahadur O.B.I.

Near Mooli Mills, Ganeshpett, Circle No 2, Nagpur City

40

Adi¹asi Sabha, Nagpur, 16-4-1947.

For ~~of~~ favour of sympathetic consideration, where necessary, deserved by the downtrodden in the interest of the uplift of crying and neglected mass.

Outline of the suggestive Memorial from the Aborigines of Central Provinces and Berar.

Description of the country.

The country lying in the Central part of India and known as "Gondwana" was under the rule of the Gonds proper, the oldest and the foremost of the tribes of the Aborigines, before its being transferred from them to the Moghals and Marathas, and then to the British to day. The descendants of some of the original Ruling Houses still reside at Nagpur and Chanda, apart from the Ruling chiefs, Jagirdars, Zamindars and Maliguzars belonging to this tribe, in the area now covered by the Central Provinces and Berar. The very name suggests its being inhabited and owned chiefs by the Gonds, and it was fully covered with dense natural forests and mineral wealth unearthed partially till after the starting of the Railway communications and flourishing-rising improvements affected during the British regime. To day it contains considerable area in the shape of Mines, Gardens, Forests, producing quite rich stuffs. The fertile fields produce all kinds of grains, especially abundant Rice, and Gardens of the quality oranges, mosmbbis, mangoes and other fruits, as well as Bidi leaves of the top-rate the cotton producing tracts have also the Cotton Mills, and the factories (one of the biggest in India being the Empress Mills at Nagpur). (Reference vide (i) Akbarnamah of Abul Fazal, (ii) Imperial Gazetteer of India, (iii) Indian year book and Who's Who)

Description of the Tribe.

The population of Adi¹asis in Central Provinces and Berar to-day according to the last Census of India (1941 Vol, VIII C.P. & Berar page 35-36) is 37,08,892. It is the irony of fate that Adi¹asis though living on the highest peaks and hills of the Satpura Mountains, have been reduced to touch the lowest depth of poverty, because so long they were left uncared for, unheard and unprotected. This rendered them

uneducated and reduced them to the present pitiable plight. The members of the tribe are strong and ~~skinny~~ sturdy, healthy and robust, stout and brave. They are experts in hunting tigers. They are still shy of strangers or nicely dressed men, because they were never given any opportunity to ameliorate themselves, to move freely in the society and were kept all along in the dark without education. They are no doubt improving now on being gradually educated, but still much behind the world in the absence of proper encouragement. Many of the members in the urban areas (which are a bit advanced) have lately obtained Graduation and Matriculation in the recent years, yet a considerable majority living in the plains and the rural areas still remain devoid of any education being far backward.

The Service Representations.

(Vide the Hitavad of Nagpur, 28-3-47 page 3).

Pandit Ravi Shanker Shukla, Premier of Central Provinces and Berar, in reply to a question raised by Mr.G.B.Deshmukh in the Provincial Assembly, told that according to the 1941 Census the number of Muslims in the Province was 783697, out of which 99 held Gazetted posts, 3021413 belonged to the Scheduled Castes of which 3 held Gazetted posts, 518619 were Marathas (Kunbis) and 12 Gazetted officers, 587502 Malis and 5 Gazetted officers, 542555 Brahimans and 448 Gazetted officers, 14996 Sikhs and 13 Gazetted officers.

It will be seen that in the above figures there is no mention of Backward tribes falling under Aborigines. These have about 3 Graduates, but their case is not ~~much~~ considered because they cannot compete with the far advanced classes in the absence of any authoritative ruling or responsible representation in higher services.

From times immemorial very few Adibasis (except those living in big towns or ~~xi~~ Cities) could afford any facilities for proper education, tuition, push forward and become Graduates. In fact their obtaining Graduation need be concessioned as Postgraduation. One of the very important disadvantage is the lack of educated ~~environs~~ environments, necessary books, newspapers and educational materials and equipments. As a measure of encouragement, therefore, to the lagging behind tribes the bare Graduation to the Backward Tribes must be given higher preference in selection for the posts of Public Service ~~any~~, Commission, All India Administrative

services, Gazetted posts Central as well as Provincial, and these enactments should be incorporated in the Regulations of the Central and Provincial Public Service Commissions. It is requested that the backward tribe Graduates and non- Graduate candidates may not be rejected for minor defects.

N.B.- It is not a very great attainment if the sons of far advanced classes become Graduates in first division or honours who receive tuition at home by their educated fathers and relatives, besides they live in the environment of educated classes. These advantages and privilages are not at all within the reach of backward tribes. If they become mere Graduates they may be considered as having passed in first division or honour, be exempted from competitive examinations, and reservation of representation in services is requested. It is requested that age limit may be fixed as fallows:-

For Graduates- Age limit 30 years as for scheduled castes.
For Intermediates- Age limit 28 years.
For Matriculates- Age limit 26 years.
For Non-Matriculates- Age limit 25 years.

Probationary period in all cases needs extension from 2 to 4 years.

Backward Tribe Graduates may be provided with:-

Public Service Commission,
Gazetted officers and higher posts.

Intermediates- Gazetted and Non-Gazetted posts.

Matriculates- Non-Gazetted and Clerical service.

Non-Matriculates- Ordinary clerks posts.

Age limit and other concessions must hold good for about 20 years or so, because the Adibasis are illiterate from time immemorial.

The far advanced classes are very ~~well~~ well qualified to find their own way in the world. The backward tribes are downtrodden hence they have no scope. What is needed in the circumstances is the reservation of the representation in all the Government Services on population basis and top-priority in all cases as in force in the Bombay Presidency.

Educational Concessions and Tahsil Schools.

Hubbalpore, 2-11-46- The Government of Central Provinces and Berar have decided to establish 2,500 Primary Schools in villages as part of the literary drive scheme and a

Normal Training School in each Districts for securing trained and qualified teachers in the rural ~~area~~ area. Since the Province comprise of jungles and waste lands for cultivation all over, the ~~proposed~~ proposed schools be started in each Tahsil as centre with the following concessions for the :-

- (i) 200 Acres of land be secured and reserved for the purpose.
- (ii) Adilasixxkxi children both sexes over 7 years of age be enrolled in these schools.
- (iii) They should be provided free lodging, boarding, books and stationery.
- (iv) Technical training may be imparted in all possible items, some of which are quoted below:-
 - 1) Handloom weaving, (2) Oil Ghani,
 - (3) Fishery. (4) Leather-tanning,
 - (5) Carpentry, (6) Tailoring,
 - (7) Blacksmithing, (8) Agriculture,
 - (9) Cattle breeding, (10) Gardening,
 - (11) Compulsory Physical and Military training.

for Girls.

- (1) Needle work (2) Cottage Industries,
- (3) Minor Techniques, (4) Nursing
- (5) Schooling etc. etc.

It is requested that their culture and dialect may be preserved.

According to the tendency of the boys they should be put through one of the above courses. Skilled men and Technicians and Grain Supply are the crying need of India to day.

The Adilasi ~~Em~~ boys should be chosen to be imparted instruction in the practical work of agriculture. This will render the Tahsil School to be self-reliant, supporting and help the solution of the Grow More Food problem. The School at the Tahsil Head quarter should function as the Central Workshop wherefrom boys will come out fully trained to earn ~~their~~ their livelihood on their own physical efforts. The unemployment will solve thus 90% at least in the future generation. Secondly out of the 200 acres of land 50 acres may be used for implementing Gardens to grow oranges, Mosambis, Mangoes and other local fruits; and 130 acres be utilised to grow ~~the~~ the Provincial grains of wheat, Bajra, Jwar, Tuor, etc. The Adilasi boys be engaged to work in the Gardens and the fields. The boys and girls of the surrounding villages will willingly be allowed by their parents to join the tahsil schools if the advantages of the

Tahsil Schools are properly explained to them. The parents can visit their children any day they like. Adult literary classes in the main Provincial languages of Hindi and Marathi can be started in the Tahsil school and the villages canvassed to attend it after the days toil is over. This will make Tahsil school more serviceable, more beneficial and more useful to the nearest villages than those at District Headquarters.

Tahsil schools may be opened for the Adiwasis where they are in majority ~~in~~ Excluded and partially Excluded Areas.

The staff of the school should as far as possible be drawn from Aboriginals, as they are available.

Gardens
Thirdly in about 5 years time when the ~~Graduates~~ are ready the expenses incurred will all be covered and recouped. Sale proceeds of the school will not only help the Tahsil school but the Tahsil also. Collection and accumulation of Bidi leaves through the school boys, will be helpful to the schemes.

Being far off from their villages or residence the parents will be more unlikely to send their children to the District places.

The outline suggested above are feasible schemes of utility and necessity from the point of view of the day, and it is hoped that the Authorities will kindly take up the scheme in hand if approved, to the best advantage for the uplift of the Aboriginal mass.

The schemes be entrusted to the Experts and Advisors to be worked out.

Urban Areas Advantages.

The Government will very kindly make provisions for Backward Tribe students the advantages of exemption from fees and scholarships to the ~~desirer~~ deserving Adiiasi children in all Colleges and Schools in the Province (whether Government or Aided).

A L A N D.

Monday 17-3-1947, Bombay.

The Government of Bombay have sanctioned waste lands to be handed over for cultivation:-

Lands will be granted to the backward classes free of charge, if the occupancy price is likely to

drive individual grantees to raise loans or to handicap their cultivation. In other cases a light occupancy price, generally not exceeding three times the assessment of the land, payable in one to three instalments without interest will be charged.

Sunday, 16-3-1947, Bombay- By Marang Gomke- Mr. Jaipal Singh.

Said- The aboriginal must be firmly rooted in his land. Where he has lost his land, he must get it back. Landless he is hopelessly without moorings. Land is his biggest security.

In Central Provinces waste land may be given to Adi~~s~~asis free of charge and sufficient money to meet expenses and purchase a pair of bullocks each at least if possible.

They may also be supplied with modern improved implements for agriculture and improved rabbi seeds.

~~Money~~ Money thus paid to them can be recovered in easy affordable instalments.

Adi~~s~~asis need special rights.

Bombay, 17-3-1947 - The Adi~~s~~asis must get all the rights and privileges of and an adequate share in a popular Government. It is only then that their so called backwardness in the political & economic and all other fields will disappear - observes Mr.D.N. Wadreker, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Backward classes in the Government of Bombay. They must have representation on Central and Provincial Legislatures and certain seats in Provincial Legislatures should be reserved for these people.

For Central Provinces and Berar only one seat has been allotted in the Legislative Assembly for representatives of backward areas and tribes ~~xxviii~~, 71 vide table Demand, Declarations and the Services.

Of seats page 6 Govt. of India Act 1935

In this connection it will be worth while to bring home some of the recent remarks in the press:-

- 1) Bombay, 6-4-47- The Bombay Government have decided to accord top-priority to the uplift of primitive tribes and backward classes in the Province.

The Government of the Central Provinces and Berar should also be moved to adopt a similar procedure, all the more because C.P. tract happens to be Gondwana proper

and requires special safeguards and protection for the tribes.

(2) Dr. Ambedkar - 14-12-1945.

When he was a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, he made provision of 3 lakhs of Rupees for the education of the untouchables and sent 30 untouchables abroad for higher technical education and ~~had~~ has secured representation to ~~in~~ the extent of little over 8% of the services.

Now from this it will be evident that because there is no representation of the backward tribes higher up, who is there on the earth to help Aborigines.

(3) The Hon'ble Rajendra Prasad.

In December 1946 in Delhi he assured to the Adiwasari members that every possible encouragement and assistance will be given to them and that they deserve every kind of encouragement at the hands of the Constituent Assembly. The Adiwasaris hope that they will be given all privileges in the terms of Government Service and Education etc. on population basis with top-priority.

(4) New Delhi, 16-11-46.

The Hon'ble Rajendra Raja-gopalachariar has announced that the Government of India have provided 3 lakhs of Rupees for the Scholarship scheme for the scheduled castes.

But it will be regretful to remark here that for Adiwasis there has been no such provision as yet.

(5) Madras, 14-2-47- The Government of Madras have sanctioned Rupees one crore for the uplift of scheduled castes.

Nagpur, 4-9-46- C.P.'s Ambitious Post-war scheme.

A scheme for welfare work in aboriginal areas prepared by Mr. A.V.Thakkar would be implemented and this will cost Rupees five lakhs.

vide Table of seats page 6 of Government of India Act 1935.

For C.P. & Berar only one seat has been allotted in the Legislative Assembly for representatives of Backward Areas and Tribes.

It must be noted that scheduled castes have been allotted 20 seats when their population is 32,65,453 *vide page 35 and 36 of the census of India 1941 vol. VIII C.P. & Berar* and the population of backward tribes is 37,08,892.

It is requested that adequate number of seats may be allotted to the Backward Tribes also according to their population, and also similar representation on Central Legislature.

LOCAL BODIES.

Provision may be made for:-

- (1) Representation of tribes in local and Districts Boards also
 - (i) Municipal Committees, (ii) District Councils, (iii) Notified area as also ~~xx~~
 - (iv) Village and Sanitation Panchayats, wherever these bodies exist.
- (2) Independent Local Boards for original areas on specifically chalked lines.

SUFFRAGE.

Dhulia, 17-3-1947- Bhils demanded Adult Franchise, Reservation of seats, and Constitutional Safeguards.

Demand of C.P. Adibasis.

Adult franchise is the only qualification which will empower the Adibasis to exercise their right of citizenship. This must be provided with constitutional safeguards to all their interests at the same time which need be stressed.

All other franchise such as property or education qualifications will deprive a large majority of our people from having any say in the election of the candidates for the ~~representative~~ representative bodies. Hence we stand for Adult franchise.

SCHEME TO AMELIORATE THE CONDITION OF ABORIGINALS
IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES (GONDWANA) FOR FAVOUR OF
SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION, AND APPROVAL.

EXCLUDED AND PARTIALLY EXCLUDED AREAS.

1. Free legal advice is badly needed.
2. Registration of Money lenders,
3. Bond Service, needs looking into,
4. Tenancy and land alienation legislation
5. Tribal Village Panchayats,
6. Abolition of Begar,
7. Co-operative Societies,
8. Weights and Measures,
9. Opening small rural banks dealing both in cash and kind under the Co-operative Societies Act,
10. Debts to be paid off in easy instalments,
11. Road Improvement,
12. More village communication and fair weather roads,
13. Existing forest roads improvement,
14. Forest Concessions,
15. Since there is plenty of forest round about villages collection of Bidi leaves on more organised lines,
16. Collection of fuel, Timber and Mahuwa at cheap rates and their disposal when the market is high by resorting to unions and monopolies under Government's guidance.
17. Opening of small dairies on Co-operative lines,
18. Forest wages and labour to be fixed,
19. Grazing free,
20. Fishing free,
21. Hunting free,
22. Public health,
23. Medical Relief,
24. Opening of dispensaries under the Kasturba Memorial Fund,
25. Veterinary Dispensaries,
26. Hygiene teaching,
27. Village Industries,
28. Industries likely to be developed,
29. Water supply,

Government services will infuse a new life in the educated Adibasis after ages, and will play a great role in looking into the interests of the downtrodden Adibasis and removing their injustices, if any, done to them by other elements. This will also fix their status in life and society, will give them encouragement and scope for self-reliancy, and for amelioration of their basic needs and rights.

In order to encourage Graduate Adibasis, the Government will be pleased to create Extra posts of Extra Assistant Commissioners (not Non-Gazetted officers) to supervise and deal the scheme and dispose of Civil suits in these areas. It will not in any way affect and infringe the rights of others, but at the same time will also justifiably meet the rights of the Adibasis when they are on the verge of rise to-day and partially meet the deficits caused to them so far.

With profound respect and humble submission the SABHA
Request the authority concerned to pardon it for intruding
upon valuable moments.

N A G P U R:

Adibasis.

D/- 18th April 1947.

To,

Mr. R. K. Ramadhyani, I.C.S.,

Secretary of the Sub-Committee,⁽¹⁾

Constituent Assembly,

New Delhi.

(1)

Gorinram

S. J. Mehta

(2)

Mallam

(3)

Amin

(4)

Khandale

(5) Lokhandale

With best compliments from Subadar Rai Sahib
Gorinram, Madawi, Bahadur O.B.I.

By Mr. Thakkar Bappa:-

I. Aboriginal tribes were uneducated and had not developed political ~~sense~~ ^{sense.}. The education has been neglected by the states for the last 150 years and more. Being isolation in remote hilly and jungly parts of the ~~main~~ country as well as in their own colonies in the plains. They are very backward and will remain so unless the state takes special measures for their advancement. Representation in the Legislature the Executives and in the services both in the Central as well as in the Provincial Governments.

By Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad.

II. In December 1946 when he inaugurated in Delhi Office of the Excluded Areas and Trible People's Association he assured the Adiwasi Members that every possible encouragement and assistance will be given to them by the Constituent Assembly and adequate representation will be given to them on the Advisory Committee.

The Adiwasis and others of the excluded and partially excluded areas deserve every encouragement at the hands of the Constituent Assembly.

The 'Hitavada' of Nagpur 9-8-1946.

III. It would not be inopportune to point out here that Gonds and allied tribes are not fairly represented in our Legislatures as the Harijans are. The tible section of our population is devided more backward than the Satnamis of Chhattisgarh and much more so than Mahars of the Marathi Districts. Moreover they reside in the Forests and the hilly parts of the Province, rarely coming in contact with the mass of the people and thus they go unseen and unattended to till they die, by the Government and the Society as a whole. They are non-vocal and are in effect deaf and dumb and will never raise a protest even if they are harassed and pressed illegally by Foresters, Policemen and other State servants.

In 1935 Government of India Act has reserved only one seat in our Assembly for them, but as many as 20 for the Harijans, though the numbers of both the Sections are nearly equal.

The extensive spread of Primary and Middle School Education in Hindi, coupled with Agricultural and Horticultural ~~basic~~ bias is the first necessity and unless in the Higher ~~stage~~ stages boys are provided with free shelter and food, the poverty stricken Gond can not go higher up and will never be able to move on terms of equality with others. Unless free hostels and a large number stipends are provided with a liberal hand, these backward people can not come up to the level of the

advanced sections of the society.

By Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, vice President of Indian's Interium Government, New Delhi 7-9-1946.

IV. We shall look to the common and forgotten man in India and seek to bring him relief and raise his standard of living, and shall especially try to help those who are economically or otherwise backward.

By Acharia ~~Kor~~ Kirplani, President of the AFL India Congress, New Delhi, 19-1-1947.

V. He referred to the great injustice done by the British to the tribe excluded and partially excluded areas. There was almost no scope for development. The British have made it a dead society.

He urged the Central and Provincial Governments to take adequate measures to uplift the ~~tribes~~ tribe people economically, socially and politically.

Now the ~~tribes~~ tribe people in those areas were living on static life. It was not surprising that they had been kept backward by the British, who wanted to exploit the mineral and forest resources of those areas. That was the reason for the British keeping them backward.

Whenever any question of reforms came they had been termed different, sometimes as backward and now as excluded and partially excluded areas people. On all occasions actual reforms have been kept away from them under different pretenses.

New Delhi - 16-11-1946 - By Hon'ble G. Rajagopalachariar.

VI. Special provision has been made by different Provincial Governments for opening Primary Schools in excluded areas, granting scholarships, providing for hostel accommodation for backward communities and hill tribes. Government of India provided three lakhs of rupees for the scholarship scheme for the Scheduled Castes.

By Madras Government - Madras - 14-2-47.

VII. Rupees one crore has been sanctioned for the uplift of scheduled castes and nine additional Labour Officers have been appointed.

Bombay - 17-3-1947 - By the Government of Bombay.

VIII. Waste lands to be handed over

- 3 -

for cultivation.

Lands will be granted to the Backward classes free of charge, if the occupancy price is likely to drive individual grantees to raise loans or to handicap their cultivation. In other cases a light occupancy price generally not exceeding three times the assessment of the land, payable in one to three instalments without interest will be charged.

IX. Combined competitive examination on 1-7-1947 at six centres by the Federal Public Service Commission:-

Age limit 30 years in the case of Scheduled Caste candidates-

There is no mention of Backward Tribes.

Bombay, April 6 - The Bombay Government have decided to accord top priority to the uplift of backward classes and primitive tribes in the Province, declared Mr. B.G.Kher, Prime Minister of Bombay, addressing a gathering of Warlis in the Dahanu ~~kar~~ taluk.

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All India Excluded and Partially
Excluded Areas Association,

(RAJAHMUNDRY.)

President :

D. Kodanda Ramiah.

General Secretary :

D. B. Rangacharya.

Vice-President :

M. V. R. Anaharachariar.

Joint Secretary :

S. Bojji Dora.

Camp Swarjya Asramam,
Polavaram.

West Godavari Agency.
(Madras Presidency).



Date 10--4--47.

To
The President, Constituent Assembly,
Council House., New Delhi.

Most Honoured Sir,

I beg to submit that the presence of the co-opted members to the Sub Committee Excluded and Partially Excluded Areas, is essentially necessary even at the meetings of the Sub Committee in New Delhi as elsewhere, at the times of discussions, drafting schemes etc., considering the interests of those areas in their respective provinces and the precedents in such matters.

Otherwise, we feel, the draft will be incomplete and unsatisfactory.

So, we hope that you will be kind enough to cause the co-opted members take part in such meetings as mentioned above and do full justice to those areas.

With best regards,
Yours sincerely,

D. B. Rangachari

General Secretary.

Copy to Sri A.V.Thakkar Baba, Chairman,
Excluded Areas Sub Committee.,