

S.No. 1(R)

APPENDIX II-4

No. 12016/2/2001-C&LM-I
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
(C & LM-I Section)

Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110001
07th May, 2008

To,
The Joint Secretary,
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes,
Lok Nayak Bhavan,
New Delhi

Sub.: Substitution of "Galo" in place of "Galong" at Sr. No. 5 in the list of Scheduled Tribe in Arunachal Pradesh.

Sir,

I am directed to refer this Ministry's D.O. letter No. 12016/06/2007-C&LM-I dated 26/11/2007 on the subject cited above and to inform that the Office of the Registrar General of India vide D.O. No.8/1/2003-SS(Pt.)(Arunachal Pradesh) dated 17/03/2008 (copy enclosed) has supported the proposal of the State Government of Arunachal Pradesh for substitution of "Galo" in place of "Galong" at Sr. No. 5 in the list of Scheduled Tribe in Arunachal Pradesh stating that "if the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is satisfied with the fact that there will be no administrative problem in substitution "Galong" currently listed as a Scheduled Tribe at Sr. No. 5 of the STs list with "Galo", ORGI does not have any objection with the current proposal of the State Government".

ii). The State Government of Arunachal Pradesh vide letter dated 24/04/2008 (copy enclosed) has informed that there will be no administrative problem in substituting "Galong" with "Galo". The persons who own ST Certificate under the Tribe name "Galong" issued earlier will continue to be honoured. But after substitution all future ST Certificate will be issued under the tribe name "Galo".

It is requested that the comments/views of the NCST on substitution of "Galo" in place of "Galong" at Sr. No. 5 in the list of Scheduled Tribe in Arunachal Pradesh may kindly be communicated to this Ministry at the earliest for further necessary action in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(Dr. N.K. Ghatak)
Joint Director
Tel. 23383965

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देवेन्द्र कुमार सीकरी
DEVENDER KUMAR SIKRI

अपर सचिव
भारत सरकार एवं जनजात आरक्षण, भारत
गृह मंत्रालय
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY
&

Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India
Ministry of Home Affairs

D.O.No.8/1/2003-SS(Pt.)(Arunachal Pradesh)

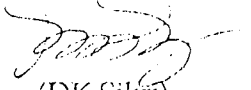
17th March, 2008

Dear Ms. Ruchira Pant,

Please refer to your office letter No.12016/2/2001-TA(RL)/C&LM-1 dated 11th October, 2007 regarding Office of the Registrar General, India's, comments on Arunachal Pradesh State Government proposal for correction of name 'Galong' as 'Galo' in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Arunachal Pradesh. The comments of this office in this connection are sent herewith for further appropriate action.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(DK Sikri)

Encl: As above

Ms. Ruchira Pant,
Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Shastri Bhavan
New Delhi

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Comments of the ORGI on the Arunachal Pradesh State Government proposal concerning correction of 'Galong' as 'Galo' in the list of Scheduled Tribes in Arunachal Pradesh:

The ORGI had earlier examined State Govt.'s proposals on 25 communities (including Gallong) in connection with the comprehensive revision of the STs list of the State. Then on the basis of ethnographic information furnished by the State Govt. (vide letter No.POL_80/72 VOL-IV dt. 24th Jan, 1992) and also on the basis of published literatures, this office vide D.O. No.8/1/93-SS(Gen) dt. 29th Jan, 1993 agreed to the State Govt.'s proposal for inclusion of all the 25 tribal communities including 'Adi' & its eighteen (18) sub-tribes (including "Galo (Gallong)") in the STs list.

2. Subsequently, it appears that when in 1999 the Ministry of Tribal Affairs sent the approved list (agreed by ORGI as well as by National Commission for SCs and STs) to the State Govt. for final confirmation by them, the State Govt. took a divergent view, and instead submitted a fresh list of 20 communities for inclusion in the STs list vide letter No. Secy(SW)/SCST(IN.EX)99 dt. 31st March, 2000. The State Govt., however, neither justified their changed stand nor furnished any fresh ethnographic information supporting these 20 communities.

3. Thereafter, Ministry of Tribal Affairs again sought ORGI comments on the State Govt.'s fresh proposal for a comprehensive revision of the STs list of the State for which the State Govt. has recommended 20 communities.

4. However, since no detail ethnographic information/reason had been furnished by the State Govt. in support of their changed stand, particularly when their earlier proposals were based on more detail ethnographic information/report, this office had offered its comments vide D.O. No.8/1/2003-SS (Arunachal Pradesh) dt. 21st Dec., 2005 reiterating its earlier stand with regard to the inclusion of Abor, Khowa, Galong, Aka, Singpho, Momba, Mishmi, Serdukpen, and Khampti. Further, this office had made an observation that "The present Scheduled Tribes list of Arunachal Pradesh is an 'open' list. 'All tribes of the State' are recognized as STs in the

State. The names of 12 tribes are spelt out in the STs list as an illustration. As a result, total number of Scheduled Tribes enumerated in the State since 1961 Census has varied from Census to Census. It was 41 in 1961 Census, 110 in 1971 Census, 106 in 1981 Census, 100 in 1991 Census and 99 in 2001 Census. Overall, 111 tribes have so far been returned as Scheduled Tribes in the State between 1961 to 2001 Censuses. Palpably, the proposed list of 20 Scheduled Tribes is not an 'exhaustive' list of STs of the State. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs may like to examine it critically and give comments on this aspect before considering the State Government recommendation/proposal in this regard".

5. Keeping in view of the points mentioned above, the State Govt., if so desired, may send a fresh proposal along with relevant ethnographic information for comprehensive revision of the STs list of the State. The State Govt. also may like to send justifications for changing their earlier stand of 1992 that was based on more detail ethnographic information and facts.

6. The present proposal is for substitution of "Galong" with "Galo". In this context, this office has the following observations:

(i) According to the local people, the Britishers had named this community as "Galong" only on the basis of their interaction with another tribal community living around Pasighat. This view is corroborated by the published literature (*POI, India's Communities*, Vol. IV, p.12), according to which "A group of the Adi, the Gallong are also known as Galo, a name given by their neighbours, the Miniyong".

(ii) In a recent book (*Galo Lok-Jiban Abang Sanskriti, 2007, p. viii (in Hindi)* by J. S. Nino) the name Galo and its etymological meaning has been discussed. According to which, the word Galong has been derived from Galo by distortion. The word "Galo" derived from "Golo" mountain. According to some people "Galo" means - 'going downward to flat plain'. The people of Galo migrated downward from 'Topo Karbo Dumrik (of Chin) area. Therefore, their name has been derived as Galo. Thus, the word Galong is merely a distorted version of the original word Galo. ←

(iii) Earlier this office had suggested "Galo(Gallong)" to be included under "Adi(Abor)" as per the then proposal of the State Govt. Therefore, this office has in a way accepted the fact earlier that "Gallong" and "Galo" are 'one and the same' or 'synonymous to one another'. As per the current proposal of the State Govt. this office does not have any objection if the name of the tribe is changed from Galong to Galo in view of the fact that the community call themselves Galo, whereas Galong is a distorted form of their actual name.

(iv) However, in most ethnographic literatures (e.g. *Highlanders of Arunachal Pradesh* By Christoph von Furer-Haimendorf; *A Philosophy for NEFA* by Verrier Elwin; *Caste, Tribes & Culture of India* (vol. 8) by Sukhdev Singh Chib; *Arunachal Pradesh: An Overview* by P. C. Dutta) Gallong has been mentioned as to be a tribe under Adi. Therefore, it is obvious that the name Gallong is more popular than Galo.

Since (i) Galong is more popular than Galo and (ii) in all administrative/official/academic records this tribe is hitherto mentioned as Galong there may be an administrative problem if the name of the tribe is changed to Galo.

(v) Earlier in connection with the substitution of name of "Dafla" with "Nyishi", the State Govt. (vide letter no. Secy(SW)SC/ST(In-EX)/99 dt. 19 July, 2004) has made it clear that there would be no administrative problem in view of the fact that after the amendment the State authorities would issue ST certificates in the name of "Nyishi", while the earlier certificates issued in the name of Dafla would continue to be valid. Subsequently, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (vide do. no. 12016/2/2001-TA(RL)Pt. dt. 2 August, 2005) endorsed the State Govt.'s stand. Thus, if the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is satisfied with the fact that there will be no administrative problem in substituting "Galong" currently listed as a Scheduled Tribe at Sl.No.5 of the STs list with "Galo", ORGI does not have any objection with the current proposal of the State Govt.

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GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SECRETARY: CIVIL SECRETARIAT
ITANAGAR

NO. SECY (SW)SC/ST(IN-EX)/99
Dtd 24th April 08.

To
The Secretary,
Ministry of Tribal Affairs,
Govt. of India, Shastri Bhavan,
New Delhi - 110 001.

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Sub :- Substitution of "Galo" in place of "Galong" at Sr. No. 5 in the list of Scheduled Tribe of Arunachal Pradesh

Ref:- Ministry of Tribal Affairs letter F. No. 12016/2/2001-TA(RL)/C&LM-I dtd. 9th April 08.


Sir,

With reference to your Ministry's letter on the subject mentioned above, I am to inform you that there will be no administrative problem in substituting "Galong" currently listed as Scheduled Tribe at Sr. No. 5 of Scheduled Tribe list of Arunachal Pradesh with "Galo".

During your visit to Arunachal Pradesh in September 07, a detailed power point presentation was made justifying the necessity for substituting "Galong" with "Galo".

Those persons who own ST Certificate under the Tribe name "Galong" issued earlier will continue to be honoured. But after substitution of "Galong" by "Galo" through Constitutional Amendment all future ST Certificates will be issued under the Tribe name "Galo".

Yours faithfully,



(Tabom Bam)

Chief Secretary

Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh

Itanagar.

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29/4/08
To सं. 976
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Dy. No. JS(RP)/G
Date 29/4/08

Handwritten notes and signatures on the left margin, including "JS(RP)", "JD(G)", and "80/4/08".