



10th December 2010

Government Equalities Office
9th Floor
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London
SW1E 5DU

CC Lynne Featherstone MP, Minister for Equalities

CC Rt Hon Baroness Sayeeda Warsi, Minister without Portfolio & Chairman of the Conservative Party

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Equality Act 2010 and Caste Based Discrimination

The Equality Act 2010 received Royal Assent on 8th April 2010. I am writing to follow up on government mandated investigation into Caste Based Discrimination.

During the passage of the Single Equality Bill, Parliament acknowledged that caste was an aspect of race. The Equality Act 2010, provides for a Minister of the Crown to effect legislation prohibiting Caste Based Discrimination in Great Britain (subject to further research). Accordingly, the Government Equalities Office (GEO) commissioned the National Institute of Economic and Social Research (NIESR) to undertake an independent research on caste and caste based discrimination. The NIESR study was expected to be completed by August 2010 to inform the need to exercise the Ministerial power in the Equality Act.

CasteWatchUK has been a stakeholder organisation representing the interest of caste affected communities. We have provided input to the key research NIESR has conducted and would therefore be most grateful, if you will please inform our organization of whether NIESR has finalised its investigation and whether such findings will be made public. More importantly, we are anxious to know the outcome of the research so that the public, especially, the affected communities are kept informed.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Sat Pal Muman
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