

**Meeting of the Commission with various Forward
Community organisations at the PWD Rest House,
Thiruvananthapuram on 07.10.2021.**

One of the main functions of the Commission is to study and analyse the issues of the economically backward classes among the forward communities and recommend welfare measures for them to Government. The Commission has decided to undertake a sample survey covering almost 20,000 Local Self Govt wards, 5 most vulnerable households representing each ward. The survey will be conducted through Kudumbashree based on a questionnaire prepared by the Commission in consultation with experts in this field and data will be captured using Mobile App.

Commission called a meeting of various Forward Community organisations at the PWD Rest House, Thiruvananthapuram on 07.10.2021 to solicit their co-operation for the proposed socio-economic survey. 43 representatives of various organisations participated in the said meeting chaired by the Chairman, Justice M.R.Hariharan Nair. Adv.M.Manoharan Pillai, Member welcomed the gathering and Sri. A.G.Unnikrishnan, Member offered vote of thanks. Member Secretary, Registrar and staff were present.

The Chairman and Members categorically stated that the aim of this survey is not to identify the beneficiaries of any welfare scheme and also that, apprehensions that the survey would affect the benefits now being enjoyed by the EWSs are totally baseless. The Chairman clarified various doubts and apprehensions raised by representatives of Forward Community organisations who participated in the meeting. He also requested their whole hearted co-operation in this regard. These organisations also, can come forward voluntarily to collect data in the prescribed questionnaire (uploaded in the website also) from households which are the most vulnerable among the unreserved classes approved by Government as per G.O (Ms) No.114/2021/GAD dated 03.06.2021. Since the tenure of this Commission is to expire on 13.3.2022, this may be carried out in a time-bound manner and the same may be forwarded to the Commission's office at Thiruvananthapuram on or before 31.12.2021 along with their

suggestions regarding their welfare and upliftment. This would be of immense help to the Commission while preparing the final report to be submitted to Government incorporating recommendations for their welfare and socio-economic development.

Most of the representatives expressed satisfaction over the design adopted in the matter and offered to co-operate by providing maximum inputs to the Commission after making surveys of their own.

Meetings with district level representatives of various Forward Community organisations are also scheduled at zonal meetings to be held at Palakkad, Kottayam, Kollam, Kasaragod and Kannur on 20.10.2021, 21.10.2021, 22.10.2021, 26.10.2021 and 27.10.2021 respectively. Commission will also personally hear the various complainants who have raised grievances to the Commission on diverse matters during the sittings to be held at these places.

In the Press Conference held in the afternoon, the Chairman and Members conveyed the purpose and modalities of the envisaged socio-economic survey by the Commission.