



**RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR**  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
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Member of Standing Committee on Defence  
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Member of Central Advisory Committee for National Cadet Corps  
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Vice Chairman, National Military Memorial Management Trust, Bangalore

December 9, 2014

*Dear Sadanand Gowda Avarc*

I write this letter to bring to your attention an omission in the Indian Succession Act 1925 because of which women from the native Christian community in Mysore and Coorg are being denied their equal right to ancestral property for the past several decades now.

As you are aware, the Indian Succession Act accrues that both women and men have equal coparcenary rights. However, the predecessor to this Act – the Indian Succession Act of 1865 specifically exempted the native Christians from Coorg and Mysore in Karnataka from its ambit. When the 1925 legislation was passed, this provision was not corrected and native Christian women from Coorg and Mysore continued to be exempted.

As a result, while women citizens belonging to other communities within the Christian community were able to rightfully claim their rights under the Indian Succession Act, those from the native Christian community of Coorg and Mysore were marginalised.

It is tragic that this lacuna has not been identified and set right by the government for years. A simple amendment to the Indian Succession Act to include the native Christian women of Mysore and Coorg would serve to reinstate the rights of these women.

I would urge you to look into this matter at the earliest and ensure that suitable measures are taken to end this anomaly and take steps to make an amendment to the Act at the earliest.

Sincerely,

*Rajeev*

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri D. V Sadananda Gowda  
Hon'ble Minister for law and Justice  
Government of India  
New Delhi