

OBC VOICE



AUGUST 7



REMEMBERING

**Stalwarts
of
Social
Justice**

AUGUST 10

AIOBC EMPLOYEES FEDERATION'S CALL FOR DHARNA AT DELHI

- Protect Public Sector
- Conduct Caste Census
- Abolish Creamy Layer
- Reservation in Judiciary

வங்கிப் பணி



CASTE CENSUS



NIRF RANKING



UCC

HISTORIC CONFERENCE OF UNION BANK OBC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, TAMIL NADU HELD AT TIRUCHI ON 23.7.2023



Union Bank Executives: G. Murugan, DGM/Liaison Officer for OBC, Chennai Zone, Regional Heads: C Prabhu, Chennai Broadway Region, M.Chelladurai, Salem Region, Tmt.S.S. Lavanya, Trichy Region, P.Dhanasekaran, Tirupur Region, P.R, Ranjith Tirunelveli Region, Y.S.B. Shastri, Head,ZAO, Chennai Zone, V.Natarajan, Auditor, M.Bagyaraj, All India UBIOBC Gen Secretary addressed and greeted the function.

G.Karunanidhy, President of the Association presided. S.Natarajan, GS welcomed the participants. G.Saraswathi, Treasurer compered the function. R.Purushothaman, Chairperson Reception Committee gave the vote of thanks.

AUGUST 7



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Editor:

G.Karunanidhy**Editorial Board:**

Vaeyuru Tholibangan

Ravindra Ram

T.Ravikumar

K.Chandran

G.Malarkodi

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36, Devarajan Street

Royapettah

Chennai 600014

Tel:+91 044-28485938/37

Email:

empower.socialjustice
@gmail.com

Website:

empowertrust.org

The views expressed
in the articles
are not necessarily ours

This significant date marks the historic announcement of the then Prime Minister V.P.Singh of his government's decision to provide 27% reservation to Backward Classes (OBCs) in Central Government Departments and Public Sector Undertakings as per Mandal Commission Recommendations.

This day also coincides with the death anniversary of the great social justice leader Dr.Kalaingar M.Karunanidhi who dedicated his life to the welfare of the oppressed sections of society.

During Janata Government, the Second Backward Classes Commission was constituted on 20th December 1978 with Mr. B P Mandal as the Chairperson to recommend measures for the advancement of the backward classes. The Commission submitted its report on 31st December 1980 to the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This report was not implemented both by Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi during their tenure from 1980 – 1990.

A lot of agitations and representations were made by the leaders of social organisations. Periyar movement (Dravidar Kazhagam) conducted 42 conferences and 16 agitations including courting arrest and imprisonment in Tihar Jail for pestering the government to place the Mandal Report in the Parliament for discussion.

It was on 7th August 1990, that the then Prime Minister V.P.Singh announced in Parliament, his National Front Government's decision to implement 27% reservation to OBCs in govt. jobs. Announcing the decision, V.P.Singh said "In fact this is the realisation of the dream of BHARAT RATNA Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR, of the great PERIYAR RAMASAMY and Dr. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA".

Even now, the media houses dominated by the upper caste call this move by V.P.Singh opportunistic and divisive and portray him as the rival of the country. They are so haughty that they disowned his name even at the time of his death. The fact remains that the manifesto of National Front clearly spelt that if they are given power by people, they will implement Mandal Commission recommendations. What was stated in the manifesto was implemented by V.P.Singh and hence Periyar movement called him the "Saviour of Social Justice".

The implementation of Mandal Recommendation in 1990 was the starting point for the backward class leaders to enter the political arena. They could even occupy the position of the Chief Minister in the Northern India, which was till then dominated only by upper caste leaders.

It is an irony that V.P.Singh had to pay a heavy price of giving up his Prime Ministership for implementing the Constitutionally mandated report benefitting nearly 60% of the country's population. The so called 'social justice' leaders of today who got their identity out of his announcement never defended V.P.Singh. They enjoyed power gained through him, yet never even mention his name. This is the tragedy of the backward class movement.

It is only in Tamilnadu, that the deprived sections, particularly backward class people consider V.P.Singh the Saviour of Social Justice, thanks to the message well spread among people by the Periyar movement (DK) and the DMK as a political party.

Let us on this day 7th August, remember V.P.Singh, who had sacrificed Prime Ministership for the rights of backward classes, and Dr.Kalaingar Karunanidhi for his yeoman service and contribution to the cause of social justice. We owe them both, a debt of gratitude.

Let us be vigilant against the orchestrated move by vested interests to dilute and deny the rights of backward classes, SCs, STs and Minorities and fight for the total implementation of the Mandal Commission Recommendations without any lapse and interruption. By our collective efforts, we are sure to achieve our objective. ■

வங்கிப் பணிகளில் தமிழ்நாட்டு இளைஞர்களின் வேலைவாய்ப்பைப் பறிப்பதா? தமிழ் நாடெங்கும் திராவிடர் கழக இளைஞரணியினர் பெருந்திரள் கண்டன ஆர்ப்பாட்டம்

வங்கித்துறை சார்ந்த அதிகாரிகள் உரிய நடவடிக்கை எடுத்திட வேண்டும் என்றும், தமிழ்நாடு அரசும் அதனை வலியுறுத்த வேண்டும் என்றும் 6.7.2023 அன்று திராவிடர் கழகத் தலைவர் ஆசிரியர் கி. வீரமணி அவர்கள் தலைமையில் நடைபெற்ற தலைமைச் செயற்குழு கூட்டத்தில் தீர்மானம் நிறைவேற்றப்பட்டது.

வங்கிப் பணிகளில் தமிழ்நாடு இளைஞர்களின் வேலை வாய்ப்புப் பறிப்பைக் கண்டித்து ஜூலை14இல் தமிழ்நாடெங்கும் திராவிடர் கழக இளைஞரணி

சார்பில் ஆர்ப்பாட்டம் நடைபெறும் என திராவிடர் கழக தலைவர் கி.வீரமணி அறிவித்தார். அதன்படி 14.7.2023 தமிழ்நாடெங்கும் திராவிடர் கழக இளைஞரணி சார்பில் மாபெரும் பெருந்திரள் கண்டன ஆர்ப்பாட்டம் எழுச்சியுடன் நடைபெற்றது.

சென்னை மாவட்ட ஆட்சியர் அலுவலகம் அருகில் நடைபெற்ற ஆர்ப்பாட்டத்தில் திராவிடர் கழக துணைப் பொதுச் செயலாளர் ச. பிரின்சு என்னாரெசு பெரியார் தலைமையில் நடைபெற்ற கண்டன ஆர்ப்பாட்டத்தில் திராவிடர் கழகத் துணைத் தலைவர் கவிஞர் கலி.



பூங்குன்றன், பொருளாளர் வீ. குமரேசன், தி.மு. கழக மாணவரணி இணைச் செயலாளர் எஸ். மோகன், அனைத்திந்திய இளைஞர் பெருமன்ற மாநிலத் தலைவர் தோழர் த.கு. வெங்கடேசன், விடுதலை சிறுத்தைகள் கட்சியின் இளஞ்சிறுத்தைகள் எழுச்சிப் பாசறை மாநில செயலாளர் தோழர் சங்கத் தமிழன் ஆகியோர் ஆர்ப்பாட்ட கண்டன உரை நிகழ்த்தினர்.

அகில இந்திய பிற்படுத்தப்பட்டோர் கூட்டமைப்பு ஒன்றிய நிதி அமைச்சருக்கு கடிதம்

அரசுடைமையாக்கப்பட்ட வங்கிப் பணிகளில் தமிழ்நாட்டு இளைஞர்களின் வேலை வாய்ப்பு பறிக்கப்படுவதைக் கண்டித்தும், தமிழ்நாட்டின் வேலை வாய்ப்புகளை தமிழர்க்கென்று உறுதிப்படுத்து என்ற முடிக்கத்துடன் திராவிடர் கழக இளைஞரணி சார்பில் ஒன்றிய பா.ஜ.க. அரசை கண்டித்து 14.7.2023 அன்று காலை தமிழ்நாட்டெங்கும் மாபெரும் பெருந்திரள் கண்டன ஆர்ப்பாட்டம் நடைபெற்றது.

ஒன்றிய அரசின் கட்டுப்பாட்டில் இயங்கும் அரசுடைமையாக்கப்பட்ட வங்கிப் பணிகளில் கிளார்க் பணிகளுக்கு, அந்தந்த மாநில மொழிகளைப் படிக்க, எழுத, பேச தெரிந்திருக்க வேண்டும் என்பதும் கட்டாயமாக இருந்தது. இதன் காரணமாக தமிழ்நாட்டில், அரசு வங்கிகளில் கிளார்க் பணிகளில் தமிழ் நாட்ட வர்க்கும் இதுவரை வாய்ப்புகள் இருந்து வந்துள்ளன.

இந்நிலையில், வங்கித் தேர்வு நடத்தும் வங்கிப் பணியாளர் தேர்வுக் கழகம் (IBPS) சார்பில் கடந்த சில ஆண்டுகளாக வெளியிடப்படும் விளம்பரத்தில், மாநில மொழிகளில் தேர்ச்சி என்பது கட்டாயம் இல்லை; அது ஒரு முன்னுரிமை மட்டுமே (Not Mandatory; it is Preferable) என்று விளம்பரப்படுத்தி வருகிறது.

இதன் காரணமாக வேறு மாநிலங்களில் உள்ளோர் தமிழ்நாட்டில் தேர்வு எழுதி, கிளார்க் பணிகளிலும் சேரும் வாய்ப்பு அதிகரித்துள்ளது. ஒவ்வொரு ஆண்டும் வெளி மாநிலத்தவர் எண்ணிக்கை அதிகரித்து வருகிறது.

தற்போது 2022-2023ஆம் ஆண்டுக்கான கிளார்க் பதவி நியமனங்களுக்குத் தேர்வுகள் நடைபெற்று, 288 பேர் கிளார்க் பதவிகளில் நியமிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளனர்.

அதன் விவரம்: யூனியன் பாங்க் ஆஃப் இந்தியா - 87, கனரா வங்கி - 100, பாங்க் ஆஃப் இந்தியா - 17, சென்ட்ரல் பாங்க் ஆஃப் இந்தியா - 66, யூகோ வங்கி - 16, பஞ்சாப் & சிந்த வங்கி - 2 மொத்தம் - 288.

ஆறு அரசுடைமையாக்கப்பட்ட வங்கிகளில் 288 பேர் கிளார்க்குக்கான பணி நியமனம் செய்யப்பட்டுள்

ளனர். இதில் இந்த ஆண்டும் வெளி மாநிலத் தவர்கள், தமிழ்மொழி தெரியாதவர்கள் பணியில் சேர உள்ளனர்.

தொடர்ந்து 2017 முதல் இதே போன்று வெளி மாநிலத்தவர், கிளார்க் பதவிகளுக்கு விண்ணப்பித்து, தமிழ் தெரியாமல் வேலை பார்க்கின்றனர். சென்ற ஆண்டு ஏறத்தாழ 400 வெளி மாநிலத்தவர் இவ்வாறு வங்கிகளில் பணியில் சேர்ந்துள்ளனர்.

வங்கிகளில் கிளார்க் பணிபுரிவோர் வாடிக்கையாளரிடம் நேரடி தொடர்புடையவர்கள். குறிப்பாக கிராமங்கள் மற்றும் சிறு நகரங்களில் இவர்களின் சேவை மாநில மொழியில் இருப்பது அவசியம்.

ஆனால், வங்கிப் பணியாளர் தேர்வுக் கழகம் (தனியார் நிறுவனம்) நடத்தும் தேர்வு மூலமாக தமிழ் தெரியாதவர்கள், பெரும்பாலும் ஓடிசா, கேரளம் ஆகிய மாநிலங்களிலிருந்து கிளார்க் பணியில் சேரும் வாய்ப்பு அதிகரித்துள்ளது. இவர்கள் அனைவருக்கும் தமிழ் மொழி பேச, எழுத படிக்கத் தெரியாது.

ஒன்றிய அரசின் நிதித்துறை கட்டுப்பாட்டில் இருக்கும் பாரத ஸ்டேட் வங்கி, மாநில மொழி கட்டாயம் என வலியுறுத்துகிறது. ஆனால், பொதுத் துறை வங்கிகள் அதற்கு நேர்மாறாக செயல்படுகின்றன.

ஒன்றிய அரசின் நிதித்துறையில் ஓர் அங்கமாக இருக்கும் பாரத ஸ்டேட் வங்கி மற்றும் நேஷனல் இன்ஸுரன்ஸ், யுனெடெட் இந்தியா இன்ஸுரன்ஸ், நியூ இந்தியா அஸ்யூரன்ஸ் போன்ற அரசு காப்பீட்டு நிறுவனங்களில், கிளார்க் பணிகளில் சேருவதற்கு, அந்தந்த மாநில மொழிகளில் கட்டாயம் தேர்ச்சி பெற்றிருக்க வேண்டும் என்ற விதி, முறையாகக் கடைப் பிடிக்கப்படுகிறது.

ஆனால், அரசுடைமையாக்கப்பட்ட வங்கிகளில் மட்டும் குறிப்பாக கிளார்க் பணிகளுக்கு, இந்த விதி தளர்த்தப்பட்டதால், மொழி தெரியாதவர்களும், கிளார்க் பணிக்கு சேரும் நிலை ஏற்பட்டு, தமிழ்நாட்டைச் சேர்ந்தவர்களுக்குப் பாதிப்பு ஏற்பட்டு வருகிறது.

வங்கித் தேர்வு நடத்தும் நிறுவனம் கிளார்க் பணிக்கு மாநில மொழி அறிவு கட்டாயம் என ஏற்கெனவே இருந்த விதியை மீண்டும் கொண்டு வர வேண்டும் என்பதே நிரந்தரத் தீர்வாக அமையும்.

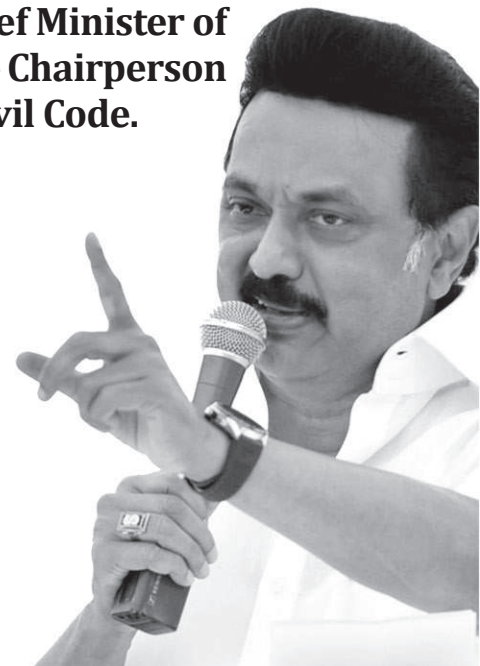
இப்பிரச்சினை குறித்து, ஒன்றிய அரசின் நிதியமைச்சர் மற்றும் தமிழ் நாடு நிதி அமைச்சர் ஆகியோருக்கு அகில இந்திய பிற்படுத்தப்பட்ட பணியாளர்கள் கூட்டமைப்பின் சார்பில் கடிதம் ஜூலை 3-ஆம் தேதி கடிதம் எழுதப்பட்டது. ■



Chief Minister M.K. Stalin

terms UCC “one-size-fits-all” approach

Text of the D.O. Letter dated 13-7-2023 of Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru M.K. Stalin addressed to the Hon’ble Chairperson of the Law Commission of India regarding Uniform Civil Code.



I am writing to express Government of Tamil Nadu’s strong opposition to the idea of implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in India that is known for its multicultural social fabric. While I understand the need for certain reforms, I believe that the UCC poses a serious threat and challenges the diverse social structure of our society. I would like to present the following reasons why the State of Tamil Nadu is firmly against the implementation of the UCC:

Constitutional Safeguards: Secularism is a core part of the basic structure of the Constitution of India. Article 25 has assured the “right to profess, practice and propagate religion of one’s choice”. Religious practices are the basis for most of the personal laws of the respective communities and hence any changes in such personal laws cannot be done without the consent of the religious communities. Considering the fact that, even among the people professing the same religion, the practices and beliefs vary from place to place and region to region, such a consent is impossible without reaching a consensus among them. Due to this and among many other factors, the UCC, mentioned as an aspirational goal in Article 44 of the Constitution, has been opposed time and again. Recently, the 21st Law Commission of India in its consultation paper dated 31.8.2018 had also stated

that UCC is not preferable. Hence, any hasty introduction of UCC will not only result in a Constitutional breakdown but would also lead to communal disharmony and chaos in the country. Personal Laws provide certain protection and rights to minority communities and we consider any attempt to implement UCC is an effort to obliterate the unique religious/cultural identity of minorities including the tribals and create an artificially homogenous majoritarian society.

Cultural and Religious Pluralism: India is a country known for its unity in diversity and cultural plurality. The UCC, by seeking to impose a uniform set of laws, disregards this diversity and undermines the essence of our nation's pluralistic fabric. It is crucial to respect and preserve the distinct traditions, practices, and personal laws of different communities including tribal communities. Further, UCC violates the freedom granted by the Constitution under Article 25, which provides every religious group the right to manage its own affairs. Article 29 gives the various religious groups the right to conserve their own distinct culture. Any attempt to impose a uniform code may be perceived as an overreach by the State into religious matters, setting a worrisome precedent for future encroachments on personal liberties.

Federal Structure: India's federal structure grants autonomy to States and respects their unique socio-cultural identities. The UCC infringes upon this principle by centralizing personal laws and eroding the rights of States to govern their own affairs. Any reform in personal laws without the active participation and consent of the States will weaken the federal structure of the country. It is pertinent to note that uniformity in personal laws will not create a unified nation.

Social Cohesion: The UCC has the potential to create deep divisions and social unrest among different religious communities. In a country where there are religious, cultural and linguistic diversities like none other, communal harmony is of utmost importance. It is crucial to promote mutual understanding and respect rather than imposing a uniform code that can generate conflicts and breed animosity.

Historical Context: Personal laws in India have evolved over centuries, deeply rooted in the historical, cultural, and religious contexts of various communities. The proposal for UCC fails to acknowledge this historical aspect and attempts to impose a standardized set of laws that may not be in sync with the values and beliefs of diverse religious groups.

Minority Rights: India prides itself on being a secular nation that respects and protects the rights of minorities through Article 29 of the Constitution. The Sixth Schedule of the Constitution also ensures that the tribal areas of States preserve their customs and practices through District and Regional Councils. The UCC, by its very nature, has the potential to disproportionately affect such tribal communities and undermine their

right to practice and preserve their traditional practices, customs and identities.

Socio economic Implications: Implementing a uniform code without considering the socio economic disparities that exist in our society can have adverse consequences. Different communities have varying levels of development, education, and awareness, and a one-size-fits-all approach may exacerbate existing inequalities.

Priority on Harmonious Co-existence: Above all, our primary goal should be to foster harmonious coexistence among the diverse communities that form the fabric of our great nation. Instead of imposing a uniform code, let us focus on strengthening interfaith dialogues, promoting tolerance, and nurturing the spirit of unity in diversity that defines India.

Honorable Chairman, the UCC, as it stands, lacks widespread consultation and engagement with the State Governments, religious leaders and community representatives which is crucial to arrive at a well-rounded and acceptable solution.

Hence, I urge you to consider these concerns seriously and drop the proposal to proceed with the Uniform Civil Code. We should aim for uniformity in rights and opportunities for all people rather than uniformity on laws. We need to acknowledge the fundamental principle that uniformity will not lead to unity and progress in a country brimming with diversity. Our nation's strength lies in its diversity, and we must uphold and celebrate it rather than attempting to homogenize it through the Uniform Civil Code.

(Publication: Director, News Public Relations Department, Chennai-9).



REPRESENTATION OF JUDGES IN HIGH COURTS

Union Law Minister Mr. Arjun Ram Meghwal's written answer was in response to a question by Lok Sabha member and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) leader, **Asaduddin Owaisi**, who asked if "79% of the High Court judges appointed since 2018 belonged to upper castes".

HIGH COURT JUDGES APPOINTED FROM 2018 TO 17.7.2023

TOTAL	GENERAL	SC	ST	OBC	MINORITIES	CATEGORY NOT KNOWN
604	458	18	9	72	34	13
	76%	3%	1.5%	12%	5.6%	2%

(Lok Sabha: Unstarred Question NO.251, dt:21.7.2023)



**ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES
EMPLOYEES WELFARE ASSOCIATIONS**

National Organisation representing Central Govt and Public Sector OBC Employees

Contact address: 139, Broadway, Chennai 600108 Mobile:9381007998 Email:aiobcfederation@gmail.com

Why India must have a caste census



Chandan Yadav

By collecting and organising better data on our social and economic status based on group identities, we are tackling a pivotal hindrance to national progress

The assembly election results in Karnataka have fortified the growing debate on the inescapable demand for an enumeration of the population's socioeconomic status, or a caste census. The Congress' campaign in Karnataka, led by Rahul Gandhi's call for "jitney aabadi utney haq" and for a fairer distribution of power, resources and opportunities among all communities, seems to have paid rich dividends in the elections. It has further unsettled the entrenched groups that have remained in power for centuries by creating illusions of fair process and merit. Numbers don't lie, and now the attempt is to hide the numbers and prevent the possible clarity regarding oppression and discrimination based on caste that is barely hidden.

The Constitution asserts the necessity of positive discrimination. And if one believes in the Constitution, can there be any logical reason for OBCs not to be included there - unless solid data proves they are not socially and educationally backward? To enumerate and get this data, one requires a caste census. ((Hemant Padalkar/HTPhoto))

In the process, the beneficiaries of the discriminatory order are even willing to give up their claims of rationality, reason and data. One reads many articles arguing against the caste census. Such arguments are contradictory and betray the realities of their

Numbers don't lie, and now the attempt is to hide the numbers and prevent the possible clarity regarding oppression and discrimination based on caste that is barely hidden.

subconscious minds that justify inherited privilege and hierarchy, though the view is couched in a cloak of modernity.

The first issue raised by many intellectuals is whether there is a need for OBC reservation, even as reality proves otherwise. The Constitution asserts the necessity of positive discrimination. And if one believes in the Constitution, can there be any logical reason for OBCs not to be included there - unless solid data proves they are not socially and educationally backward? To enumerate and get this data, one requires a caste census.

Parliamentary democracy in the post-Mandal era has given OBCs opportunities to move ahead in politics. Still, even today, their number in legislative assemblies and Parliament is not proportionate to their population. For example, in the Lok Sabha, the percentage of OBC MPs is less than 25%, much less than their population share. Similarly, in the Uttar Pradesh assembly, OBC MLAs are around 38%. In education and wealth, OBCs lag - highlighted by data-based reports in the media about their representation in bureaucracy, judiciary, media, academia, businesses and industry.

The so-called dominant OBCs are mostly small farmers, who can barely sustain themselves. One cannot remain blissfully unaware of the crisis in this sector while mouthing platitudes regarding the advancement of the dominant OBC communities.

The second argument made against any form of social justice politics is majoritarianism. This is analogous to arguing that anti-apartheid politics was majoritarian - after all, it was the numerical majority blacks revolting against the minority whites in South Africa. It must take an extraordinary level of insensitivity for public intellectuals to spot majoritarianism in the yearning among a majority of the population to break free from the shackles that hold them back.

To assume that a majority wanting a fairer social order can lead to their majoritarianism is an appalling logic. In any case, in a situation of graded inequality that the caste system has ordained, and given the caste contradictions playing out within OBCs, who will rule over whom as a single majoritarian bloc? A better understanding of the socioeconomic status of our population through a proper census will be the death knell to the religious

majoritarianism that treats them as dispensable foot soldiers.

That takes us to the third point, in which it is argued that questions of social justice do not necessarily counter Hindutva majoritarianism based on a religious other. Indian examples show that they do. In fact, in places and situations where people have sought to engage with material and meaningful questions of justice, equity and their well-being in the present and understand those from a historical perspective, Hindutva stood little chance. Karnataka has once again proven this fact. Tamil Nadu and Kerala are other examples from southern India. Even in the Hindi heartland, Hindutva has been on the defensive when questions are raised about the lower status and limited opportunities available to lower caste groups. The Bihar assembly elections 2015 are a classic case in point in this regard.

Fourth, if we are willing to acknowledge the reality of caste as a determinant of our development outcomes, as the Constitution and our planning and state interventions do, there can be no argument against better data. The reality cannot be altered by not recording it. Unfortunately, we live in a society in which individual chances of progress and failure are determined by caste origins. We must strive to make caste irrelevant, but we cannot achieve that by ignoring caste. By collecting and organising better data on our social and economic status based on group identities, we are tackling a pivotal hindrance to national progress. Yes, that might upend the interests of those who talk of numbers when it suits them and majoritarianism when it does not suit them.

Rahul Gandhi is pushing for logical next steps in the Congress's historical commitment towards ensuring social justice. Apart from being an intrinsically fair thing to do, the party's new focus will be a huge step forward in social transformation. Additionally, ideologically and tactically, it will corner the Bharatiya Janata Party - which has been pushing India away from its historical agenda of reconstructing society on egalitarian principles and establishing social democracy - through its divisive and regressive politics.

Chandan Yadav is national secretary, Indian National Congress.

(Courtesy: HINDUSTAN TIMES 25.5.2023)

A model for quality and inclusive education



Tamil Nadu's impressive and consistent performance in higher education shows that quality and inclusion can be achieved together and consistently



SUNNY JOSE



P RAGHUPATHI

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), adopted by the Ministry of Education to rank institutions of higher education in India, shows a noteworthy feature of Tamil Nadu. Specifically, the 2023 NIRF ranking of the top 100 colleges in India reveals the consistent success of Tamil Nadu in providing higher education that is both of good quality and inclusive. The Tamil Nadu experience, in congruence with the State's motto of development with social justice, offers an important insight for other States.

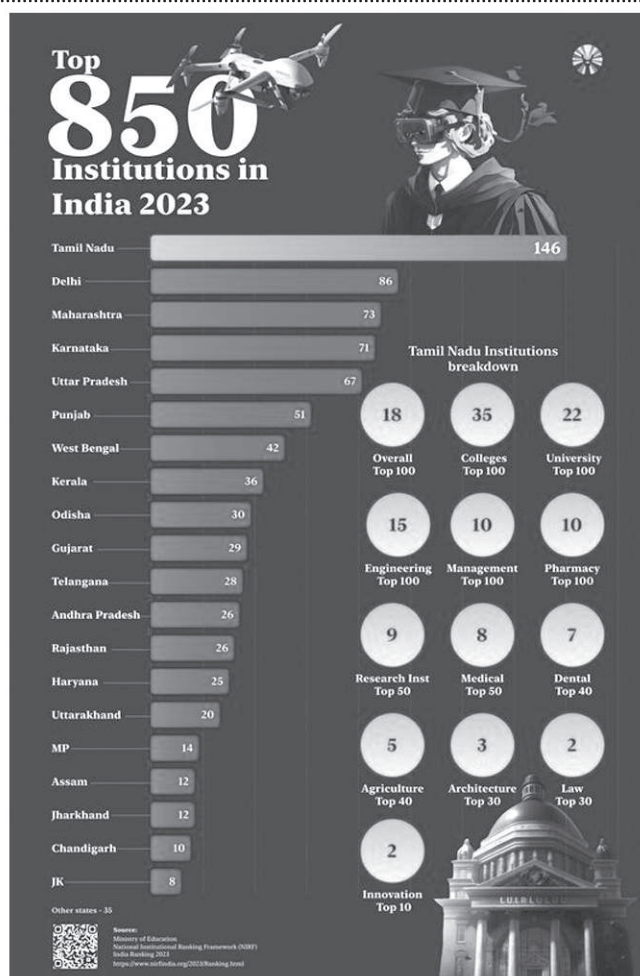
The NIRF employs a ranking metric comprising five parameters with varying weightage to assess the quality of colleges: Teaching, Learning and Resources (40%), Graduation Outcome (25%), Research and Professional Practices (15%), Outreach and Inclusivity (10%) and Perception (10%). Each of these parameters has several components, which again have varying weightage. Though far from perfect, the metric is reasonably robust as it uses broad-based and curated parameters.

The number of colleges participating in the NIRF ranking has grown from 535 in 2017 to 1,659 in 2020, and 2,746 in 2023. This five-fold increase notwithstanding, the participating colleges constitute only a paltry proportion of the actual number of colleges in India. Since NIRF ranking has already gained wide traction and credibility, it is likely that many good-quality colleges participate in the exercise. A place in the top 100 would bring them repute and increase demand for admission. On the contrary, the non-participating colleges are likely to be poor in quality and seriously lacking in most of the parameters of the ranking metric. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that many good-quality colleges participate in the ranking.

Share of colleges

Of the top 100 NIRF-ranked colleges in 2023, Tamil Nadu has the largest share (35). Delhi (32) comes next, followed by Kerala (14) and West Bengal (8). These four States collectively contribute to 89% of the top colleges, which speaks volumes about other regions. Bigger States such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Odisha do not have a single college in the top 100. Even the share of the other southern States is abysmal: Karnataka has two colleges, Telangana has one, and Andhra Pradesh has none. The share of Tamil Nadu (35%) is more than double the combined share of the other four southern States (17%).

Is the stellar performance of Tamil Nadu consistent or sporadic? The NIRF ranking of colleges since 2017 reveals that Tamil Nadu has been consistent as the lead contributor of top-ranking colleges in India. Even if we confine the focus to the last five years, when



“The NIRF ranking of colleges since 2017 reveals that Tamil Nadu has been consistent as the lead contributor of top-ranking colleges in India”

the number of colleges participating in the NIRF ranking grew rapidly, Tamil Nadu retained its top position (with the exception of 2022, when Delhi was on a par with Tamil Nadu).

Though the larger pattern of four States (Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Kerala, and West Bengal) holding the larger chunk of top colleges has remained for all the years, there have been variations in the share of the rest of the States in some years. For instance, Andhra Pradesh had one top college in both 2022 and 2021 in the ranking, whereas Karnataka's share went up to three in 2021. Barring Gujarat and Maharashtra, the big States hardly had representation in most years.

Concentrated or dispersed?

Is the performance of Tamil Nadu in congruence with its motto of development with social justice? Specifically, are the top-ranked colleges largely confined to Chennai and thereby catering primarily to the urban elites and advantaged social groups or are they dispersed and catering to rural and socially disadvantaged groups? Chennai accounts for only nine (26%) colleges. Coimbatore, with an equal share, competes with Chennai quite consistently. Tiruchirappalli, with five colleges (14%), is next. The remaining 12 (out of 35) colleges are widely spread across 11 places. This broad pattern was seen in other years too. The largest beneficiaries from Chennai, Coimbatore, and Tiruchirappalli are likely to be

urban dwellers. Yet, it is also likely that the top-ranked 23 colleges from these three cities, which belong to three different regions, might be equally serving the poor and disadvantaged social groups both from these regions as well as those contiguous to them. This is because Tamil Nadu not only has one of the highest reservation quotas, but also has been quite effective in its implementation of the reservation policy.

Additionally, since more than one-third of the top-ranked colleges are dispersed across places, they not only cater largely to the rural and under-served areas, but also provide an opportunity for quality education for students from poor and disadvantaged social groups who do not have the economic resources and social networks to study in colleges from Chennai, Coimbatore, and Tiruchirappalli. Thus, the colleges based out of Chennai in general and other districts in particular promote both quality and inclusion, and thereby contribute to the goal of development with social justice. Here too, Tamil Nadu's experience is consistent over the years. The only other State which comes somewhat close is Kerala.

Tamil Nadu's impressive and consistent performance in higher education shows that quality and inclusion can be achieved together and consistently. This finding should prompt other southern States, which also have a reasonably inclusive and effective social welfare architecture, to introspect why they lag far behind and inspire them to take action to rectify issues.

Sunny Jose is RBI Chair Professor at Council for Social Development, Hyderabad. P Raghupathi is ICSSR Senior Fellow at Council for Social Development, Hyderabad. The views expressed are personal.

(Source: THE HINDU 28.6.2023)

NATION DEMANDS CASTE CENSUS

राष्ट्र को जातीय जनगणना चाहिए



As per 1871 census, OBCs are nearly 70%
1871 के जनगणना के अनुसार ओबीसी करीब 70% हैं

1871 CENSUS: ALL INDIA - Hindoos and persons of Hindoo origin

Population of British India according to Caste and Nationality

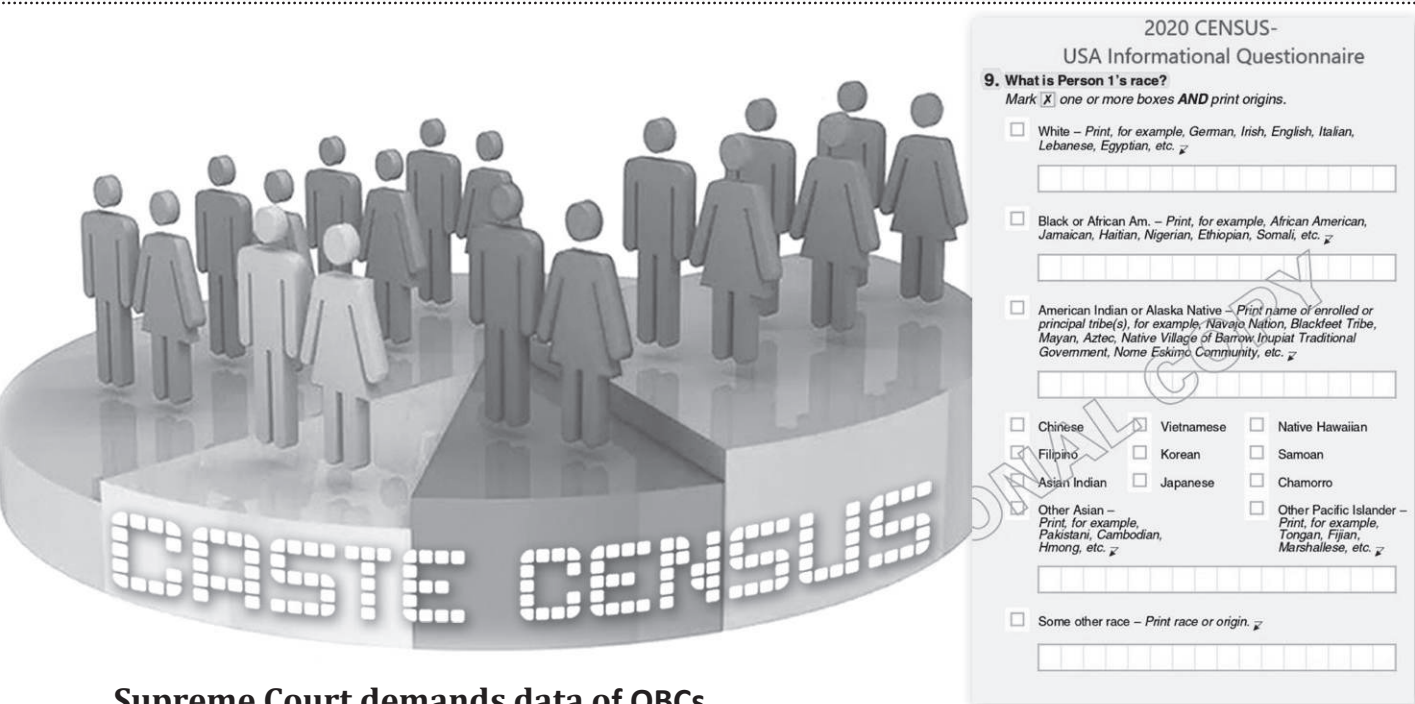
1871 जनगणना: पूरे भारत में हिन्दू और हिन्दू मूल की आबादी

जाति एवं राष्ट्रियता के अनुसार ब्रिटिश भारत की आबादी

CASTES जातियाँ	POPULATION आबादी	PERCENTAGE प्रतिशत
Brahmins ब्राह्मण	1,01,31,541	6.79
Kshatriyas and Rajpoots क्षत्रिय एवं राजपूत	56,41,138	3.78
Other castes* (Mostly Backward Castes) अन्य जातियाँ (विशेषकर पिछड़ी जातियाँ)	10,55,45,557	70.78
Caste unspecified अनिर्दिष्ट जातियाँ	7,86,311	0.53
Out-castes, or not recognizing caste बाहरी या विना पहचान वाली जातियाँ	87,12,998	5.84
Native Christian निवासी ईसाई	5,95,815	0.40
Aboriginal tribes and semi-Hindooised Aborigines मूलवासी आदिवासी और अर्द्ध हिन्दू मूलवासी	1,77,16,825	11.88
Sub-Total उप-योग	14,91,30,185	
Muslims मुस्लिम	4,02,27,552	
Non-Asiatics गैरएशियाई	1,21,148	
Asiatics not native of India गैर भारतीय एशियाई	5,40,989	
Mixed Races मिश्रित जातियाँ	1,08,402	
Unspecified विना पहचान	4,34,772	
GRAND TOTAL कुल योग	19,05,63,048	

Source: Table 23: Memorandum on the census of British India, 1871-1872

स्रोत: सारिणी 23: ब्रिटिश भारत की जनगणना का ज़ापन, 1871-1872



Supreme Court demands data of OBCs

“In the absence of updated empirical data, it is well-nigh impossible for the Courts to decide whether the reservations in favour of OBC groups are proportionate or not”.

(Five judges bench of Supreme Court of India vide their judgment dated 11th May 2010 - WP No.356 of 1994 and 245 of 1995 and 517 of 2005).

Who's afraid of Caste Census?

Those who want to preserve the status quo of social disabilities, distinctions and injustice are frightened that revealing of those particulars will make the backward classes 'conscious of their backwardness' and the 'inequalities' from which they are suffering.

Is there any logic to have 'castes' in the country and government refusing to have a data about them?

- ❖ USA conducts census including 'race'; it does not affect the integrity of census exercise in America;
- ❖ Enumeration of religious communities; it does not affect the integrity of census exercise and secular fabric in India;
- ❖ Enumeration of SCs and STs; it does not affect the integrity of census exercise in India.

Census Questionnaire in USA:

The United States of America Census Bureau in its 2020 Census Questionnaire

requires its citizens to spell out their origin (Hispanic, Latin, or Spanish) and race (Black, African American, American Indian or Alaska Native, etc) under Questions No. 6 & 7 of the Questionnaire. In the earlier Censuses also, the US adopted this method so as to effect affirmative action for these racial groups.

The Census Commissioner /RGI says, conducting caste-wise census will 'affect the integrity of census exercise in India'.

1. Article 16 (4) of the Indian Constitution states that “Nothing in this article shall prevent the State from making any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens which, in the opinion of the State, is not adequately represented in the services under the State.”
2. Backward Class includes SCs, STs and OBCs. While the Union Government is enumerating SCs and STs and leaving OBCs is abdication of its constitutional responsibility.
3. As long as the government offers affirmative action for groups that are backward for historical reasons, it must gather as much information about them as possible. It would help policymakers in identifying precisely just which groups are disadvantaged and to what extent. This is essential because policy can then deal with facts rather than with impressions, as is the case now in the absence of any authoritative data.
4. The 103rd Constitutional amendment Act provides 10% reservation to castes other than SCs, STs and OBCs. There is already a challenge in the Supreme Court on the 10% quota, citing lack of quantifiable data with the Government.
5. There is an urgent necessity to collect head count of all castes including OBCs and EWS, consequent upon the 103rd constitutional amendment act providing 10% reservation to EWS among upper castes and 105th amendment act listing OBCs to discharge constitutional mandate under Article 15 (4), 15(5), 15 (6), 16 (4), 16 (6), 243D(6) and 243T(6) of constitution of India.

(Compiled by: G.Karunanidhy, Gen.Secretary of AIOBC Employees Federation)

Expenses

Advertising and promotion
Bank charges and interest
Fundraising
Insurance
Meeting
Office supplies
Professional fees
Program costs
Travel

राष्ट्र को जातीय जनगणना चाहिए

उच्चतम न्यायालय ओबीसी के आंकड़े मांगता है

“अद्यतन व्यावहारिक आंकड़ों के अभाव में न्यायालयों के लिए निर्णय लेना असंभव सा है कि ओबीसी समुदाय के लिए आरक्षण समानुपातिक है या नहीं।”

(सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के पाँच न्यायाधीशों की पीठ का 11 मई 2010 का निर्णय - 1994 का डब्ल्यू पी 356, 1995 का 245 एवं 2005 का 517)

जातीय जनगणना से भयभीत कौन?

ये वही लोग हैं जो भेदभाव और अन्याय की यथास्थिति को बनाए रखना चाहते हैं तथा इस बात से डरे हुए हैं कि इन आंकड़ों के प्रकट हो जाने से पीड़ा झेलता आ रहा पिछड़ा वर्ग पिछड़ेपन और गैर-बराबरी की सच्चाई के प्रति सजग हो जाएगा।

देश में जातियाँ बनी रहें और इनके आंकड़ों की जानकारी जुटाने की सरकार द्वारा मनाही के पीछे कोई तर्क है भी क्या?

- ❖ यू.एस.ए. जाति (Race) के साथ जनगणना कराता है। ऐसा करने से अमेरिका की जनगणना की सत्यनिष्ठा पर कोई दुष्प्रभाव नहीं पड़ता।
- ❖ धार्मिक समुदायों की गणना से धर्मनिरपेक्ष भारत की जनगणना की सत्यनिष्ठा पर कोई दुष्प्रभाव नहीं पड़ता।
- ❖ अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति की गणना से भारत की जनगणना की सत्यनिष्ठा पर कोई दुष्प्रभाव नहीं पड़ता।

यू.एस.ए. में जनगणना प्रश्नावली:

2020 की जनगणना के लिए यू.एस.ए. जनगणना ब्यूरो ने अपने नागरिकों से मूल (हिस्पैनिक, लैटिन या स्पेनिश) तथा जाति (ब्लैक, अफ्रीकन अमरीकी, अमरीकी भारतीय या अलास्का वासी आदि) की जानकारी प्रश्नावली के प्रश्न संख्या 6 एवं प्रश्न संख्या 7 के अंतर्गत मांगी। अपनी पिछली जनगणनाओं में भी यू.एस. ने इन जातीय समूहों के अफर्मेटिव ऐक्शन के लिए इसी विधि को अपनाया।

जनगणना आयुक्त/महानिबंधक ने कहा है कि जातीय जनगणना कराना जनगणना कार्य की सत्यनिष्ठा को प्रभावित करेगा।

1. भारतीय संविधान के अनुच्छेद 16(4) में उल्लिखित है कि “राज्य की नजर में राज्य की सेवाओं में अपर्याप्त प्रतिनिधित्व की स्थिति में पिछड़े वर्ग के नागरिकों के लिए भर्तियों या पदों को आरक्षित करने के प्रावधान हेतु इस अनुच्छेद में राज्य के लिए कोई रोक-टोक नहीं है।”
2. पिछड़ा वर्ग के अंतर्गत अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग शामिल है। अनुसूचित जाति तथा अनुसूचित जनजाति की गणना जब केन्द्र सरकार करती ही है, तब ऐसे में ओबीसी को इससे वंचित रखना संवैधानिक दायित्व का त्याग है।
3. ऐतिहासिक कारणों से पिछड़े रह गए समूहों के लिए जब सरकार सकारात्मक कार्रवाई (अफर्मेटिव ऐक्शन) करती ही है, तब इनके बारे में जितनी सूचनाएँ संभव हैं, इकट्ठा करनी ही चाहिए। नीति निर्माताओं को इन सूचनाओं से मदद मिलेगी और वे सरलता से जान पाएंगे कि किस वंचित समूह को कितनी सहायता की जरूरत है। यह बहुत ही जरूरी है, क्योंकि तब नीतियाँ तथ्यों के आधार पर बनेंगी न कि अनुमान से। अभी तक आधिकारिक आंकड़ों के अभाव में ऐसा ही हो रहा है।
4. 103 वाँ संविधान संशोधन कानून ने अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति और अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के अलावा 10% आरक्षण का प्रावधान कर दिया है। पहले से ही सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के समक्ष 10% के कोटे से संबंधित चुनौती विद्यमान है जिसे साबित करने के लिए सरकार के पास कोई समुचित आंकड़ा नहीं है।
5. 103 वाँ संविधान संशोधन कानून के द्वारा उच्च जातियों के ई.डब्ल्यू.एस. को 10% आरक्षण दिए जाने की स्थिति और 105 वाँ संविधान संशोधन कानून के अनुसार संविधान के अनुच्छेद 15(4), 15(5), 15(6), 16(4), 16(6), 243 डी (6) एवं 243 टी (6) के तहत ओबीसी के लिए संवैधानिक आदेश के अनुपालन करने के लिए अभी ओबीसी एवं ई.डब्ल्यू.एस. सहित सभी जातियों की गणना तात्कालिक जरूरत है।

(संकलन: जी. करुणानिधि, महासचिव,
अखिल भारतीय ओबीसी कर्मचारी महासंघ)

12th Biennial Conference at Tiruchi A HISTORIC SUCCESS



The 12th Biennial Conference of Union Bank Backward Class Employees Welfare Association, Tamil Nadu conducted on Sunday 23.07.2023 at Hotel Ramyas (Sowbaghya hall), Trichy was a grand success.

G. Karunanidhi, President of Welfare Association, presided over the Conference. General Secretary S. Natarajan delivered the welcome address.

G. Murugan, Deputy General Manager, Union Bank, Chennai Zone, inaugurated the conference and delivered the special address. Bank Executives: C Prabhu, Chennai Broadway Regional Head, M. Chelladurai, Salem Regional Head, Ms. S.S. Lavanya, Trichy Regional Head, P. Dhanasekaran, Tirupur Regional Head, P.R.Ranjith, Tirunelveli Regional Head, Y.S.B. Shastri, Head of ZAO, Chennai Zone, M. Bhagyaraj, General Secretary of All India Union Bank OBC Welfare Association Auditor V.Natarajan addressed and greeted the function. R. Purushothaman, Chairman of the Reception Committee, delivered the vote of thanks.

The dignitaries appreciated the effective role played by our OBC association in promoting and protecting the interests of OBC employees of Union Bank and to the society as a whole.

Office-bearers of AIOBC Employees Federation Vice President A.Rajasekaran, (IOB), Secretary, G.Selvam (BHEL, Trichy), Prabha Sankar, GS BHEL OBC association, R. Ramanathan, GM (Retd) UBI, N.Govindarajulu, Gen Secretary, A.I.U.B. Pensioners and Retirees Federation graced the function and they were felicitated at the Conference.

As nearly as 400 delegates including 50 lady members attended the Conference.

The General Body elected Office-bearers and Central Committee Members unanimously. The principal Office-bearers includes G.Karunanidhi, President, S.Natarajan, General Secretary, M.Bagyaraj, Deputy General Secretary and G.Saraswathi, Treasurer.





Resolution Adopted at the General body meeting held on 23.07.2023 at Trichy.

Demand to the Central Government:

1. We oppose privatisation of public sector undertakings / govt. departments including Banks, LIC, Railways etc.
2. Caste census to be conducted immediately
3. Reservation in promotion to OBC candidates.
4. Reservation in Private Sector.
5. To Withdraw the DOPT order dated 06-10-2017 relating to equivalence of posts affecting OBC employees working in public sector.
6. To abolish Creamy layer concept for OBCs and till such time it is done, the OBC certificate issued by authorities should be valid for a minimum period of 3 years.
7. To conduct the IBPS, SSC and central government examination in all the national languages including Tamil.

Demands to the Bank Management:

1. Pre-Promotion Training for OBCs to be conducted for eight days.

2. Officer from other states working in Tamil Nadu should be encouraged to learn Tamil for effective customer Service.
3. Direct recruitment for clerical posts by our bank thro' IBPS in Tamil Nadu should have language proficiency of Tamil-to speak, read and write.
4. Bank Challans in Tamil Nadu to be made available for the customer in Tamil.
5. Management to consider conducting quarterly meetings with OBC association at central office and Zonal / Regional Level.
6. In respect of considering request transfers to our members and giving postings on promotions, we request the Zonal and Regional Managements to act impartially for better co-ordination and co-operation.
7. Transfer policy should be formulated for women officers in banks as per Union Finance Ministry instructions and Long-stay transfer policy be restricted within Zone. ■

The Annual General Body Meeting of GIC-United India Insurance OBC Association was held at Madurai on 22.7.2023 presided by V.Kamalakaran, President of the Association.



Representation of OBC in NCBC:

Total 19 posts are filled up in NCBC out of 59 sanctioned posts. Details of group and category wise as given below:

Group / Category	Gen	OBC	SC	ST	Total
Group A	1	4	-	1	6
Group B	1	-	1	-	2
Group C	4	2	4	1	11
Total	6	6	5	2	19

(Letter No. NCBC/7/19/398/2023-RTI, dt: 5.7.2023)

DROP OUTS IN CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES

Over 19,000 SC, ST and OBC students dropped out of central varsities, IITs, IIMs in 5 years: Govt to Parliament

SL.No.	Institute	No. of Students Drop Out		
		OBC	SC	ST
1	Central Universities (CUs)	6901	3596	3949
2	Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)	2544	1362	538
3	Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs)	133	143	90

This figure was shared by the Union Minister of State for Education, Subhas Sarkar, in response to a written question raised by Tiruchi Siva (DMK) in Rajya Sabha (Unstarred Question 3233 dt:29.3.2023)

Government revises pension for retired RBI employees

The existing basic pension amount of Rs 100 will be revised to Rs 163 effective from June, 2023

The Union government has approved the revision of pension for retired Reserve Bank of India (RBI) employees. According to a notification dated July 13, the RBI has said that the revised amount will be applicable for people, who retired before November 1, 2017.

DMK MP P.Wilson submits bill to move caste census to state list

DMK MP P Wilson has set off a debate as to whether the authority to undertake caste census should rest with the Union government or be transferred to the state even as he submitted a private member's bill to the Parliament authorities to transfer the subject of caste census from the concurrent to the state list.

HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI

THROUGH EMAIL/SPEED POST

No. 381 /Rules/DHC/2023

Dated: 24/07/23

From

The Registrar General,
High Court of Delhi,
New Delhi.

To

Mr. G Karunanidhi, Gen Secretary
All India Federation of Other Backward
Classes Employees Welfare Associations
139, Broadway, Chennai-600108

Sub: Regarding providing of OBC reservation in Delhi Judicial Services.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter dated 14.07.2023 on the subject cited above and to inform you that the matter regarding providing reservation for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in Delhi Judicial Services is pending consideration of the Hon'ble Full Court.

Yours sincerely,

(Syed Zishan Ali Warsi)
Joint Registrar (Rules)
For Registrar General



REPRESENTATION IN CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES **SC/ST/OBCs**

Union Minister of State for Education Dr.Subhas Sarkar in response to a question by Lok Sabha member DR. SANJEEV KUMAR SINGARI has provided the data as under: TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF IN 45 CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES as on 01.04.2023

POSITIONS 45 Cus	TOTAL	GENERAL	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	PWD
TEACHING*	13,098	8734	1421	625	1901	192	225
NON-TEACHING	20,199	14145	1958	1141	2526	161	268

***TEACHING STAFF**

(PROFESSORS, ASSOCIATE AND ASSISTANT PROFESSORS AS ON 01.04.2023)

POSTS	TOTAL	GENERAL	SC	ST	OBC	EWS	PWD
PROFESSORS	1341	1146 (85.5%)	96 (7%)	22 (2%)	60 (4.5%)	3	14
ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS	2817	2304 (82%)	231 (8%)	69 (2.5%)	187 (6.5%)	7	19
ASSISTANT PROFESSORS	8940	5284 (59%)	1094 (12%)	534 (6%)	1654 (18.5%)	182 (2%)	192 (2%)
*TOTAL	13098	8734 (66.75%)	1421 (11%)	625 (5%)	1901 (14.5%)	192 (1.5%)	225 (1.75%)

VICE CHANCELLORS AND REGISTRARS IN CUs

OBC/SC/ST (01.04.2023)

POSTS	TOTAL	SC	ST	OBC
VICE CHANCELLORS	45	1	1	5
REGISTRARS	45	2	2	3

(Lok Sabha: Unstarred Question NO.539, dt:24.7.2023)



ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES EMPLOYEES WELFARE ASSOCIATIONS

National Organisation representing Central Govt and Public Sector OBC Employees

Contact address: 139, Broadway, Chennai 600108 Mobile:9381007998 Email:aiobcfederation@gmail.com

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Editor: G.Karunanidhy

ALL INDIA CONVENTION ON CASTE CENSUS AND OBC ISSUES ORGANISED BY AIOBCSA – HYDERABAD 15.7.2023



POSTER RELEASED ON DHARNA AND SEMINAR PROGRAM TO BE CONDUCTED AT DELHI 10.8.2023



Poster on DHARNA & SEMINAR program scheduled at Delhi on 10th August 2023 was released at the premises of Rabindra Bharti Auditorium, Hyderabad on 15.7.2023 by V.Hanumantha Rao, Ex.M.P. in the presence of G.Karunanidhi, Gen Secretary, U.Chennaiah, Working President and Telangana OBC Employees Federation Office Bearers: President V.Dana Karna Chary, Gen.Secy.T.Pandu, Yakaiah Goud, Ramesh, AJP.Raju, Vamshi Krishna and AIOBCSA President Kiran Kumar.



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