



Cabinet Doubles OBC Reservation in Local Bodies

Why in News?

Recently, the Chhattisgarh government increased [OBC reservations](#), aimed at boosting representation across the state.

Key Points

- **Increased OBC Reservation:**
 - The government has doubled OBC reservations in panchayat and urban bodies from **25% to 50%**, covering roles like district [panchayat](#) chairpersons and [municipal mayors](#), while ensuring reservation aligns with population ratios.
- **Exclusion Criteria:**
 - This reservation does not apply to bodies **with 50% or more** [SC/ST reservations](#).

Constitutional Provisions Governing Reservation in India

- Part XVI deals with reservation of **SC and ST** in Central and State legislatures.
- **Article 15(4) and 16(4)** of the Constitution enabled the State and Central Governments to reserve seats in government services for the members of the SC and ST.
- The Constitution was amended by the **Constitution (77th Amendment) Act, 1995** and a new **clause (4A) was inserted in Article 16** to enable the government to provide reservation in promotion.
- Later, **clause (4A) was modified by the Constitution (85th Amendment) Act, 2001** to provide consequential seniority to **SC and ST** candidates promoted by giving reservation.
- Constitutional **81st Amendment Act, 2000 inserted Article 16 (4 B)** which enables the state to fill the unfilled vacancies of a year which are reserved for SCs/STs in the succeeding year, thereby nullifying the ceiling of fifty percent reservation on total number of vacancies of that year.
- **Article 330 and 332** provides for specific representation through reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Parliament and in the State Legislative Assemblies respectively.
- **Article 243D** provides reservation of seats for SCs and STs in every Panchayat.
- **Article 233T** provides reservation of seats for SCs and STs in every Municipality.
- **Article 335** of the constitution says that the claims of STs and SCs shall be taken into consideration constitutently with the maintenance of efficacy of the administration.