



CASTE-BASED RESERVATION

Why in the news?

Maharashtra State legislative assembly passed the Maharashtra State Reservation for Socially and Educationally Backward Classes Bill, 2024, to provide 10% Reservation to the Maratha Community

About the Bill

Drafted based on a Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission (Shukre Commission) report

Identifies Maratha community as a Socially and Educationally Backward Class (SEBC)

Provides 10% reservation in

Government job recruitment

Admissions to public and private educational institutions

Over and above existing reservation

Available to SEBC excluding Creamy Layer

Reasons for the rise in demand for reservation

Structural factors

Declining income from agriculture

Inability to find alternative employment

Challenges in job market

Private sector wages lower

Public sector offers stability and security

Political Factors

Caste-based political mobilization

Relative deprivation

Comparison with similarly situated communities

Intra-community variations

Economic disparities within communities

Way Forward

Comprehensive socio-economic survey

Promote balanced economic growth

Creamy layer criterion

Judicial pronouncements related to reservation

Indra Sawhney & Others v. Union of India, 1992

M. Nagaraj v. Union of India, 2006

Jarnail Singh & Ors. v. Lachhmi Narain Gupta & Ors., 2018

Janhit Abhiyan v Union of India, 2022

Issues with caste-based reservation

Social backwardness

Not solely based on caste

Preferred treatment

Benefits those already advantaged

Antithetical to casteless society

Perpetuates caste system

Multiplication of demand

Dominant castes seek "backward" status

Ignores intra-caste inequalities

Disparities within communities overlooked

Social Justice

Corrects historical injustice, provides level playing field

Representation

Ensures marginalized communities are represented

Substantive equality

Addresses socio-economic inequalities

Impact of Caste-based reservation

Purple Classes (Download Resindica App)