

## **Reservation Policy And Indian Politics**

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### **Introduction: -**

Reservation is the most controversy issue in India. Reservation for the most oppressed groups was conceptualized as a policy of compensatory discrimination, as a remedial measure for contemporary handicaps faced by individuals due to historical discrimination and deep stigmatization on account of their untouchable caste status. While a caste based policy might be construed as violating 'formal' equality or 'equality in law', which implies that legally all castes should be treated equally, India needed a bridge to convert formal equality to 'substantive' equality or 'equality in fact' Affirmative action, which took the form of quotas, ensured that those subject to extreme, discrimination would be identified and provided with compensatory 'reverse' discrimination in their favour.

Reservation in India is the process of facilitating a person in education scholarship, jobs and in promotions. There were political reservation also provides, but regarding political reservation at all political parties have consensus. There is no politics in this regard. But the reservation in Jobs and education is controversial. Every community wants to have a reservation for their caste.

### **Methodology: -**

Following research methodology are used for this research paper.

1. Secondary data Analysis / Archival
2. Relevant institutional resources – library/ online library.
3. Focus group
4. Qualitative case studies.

### **Objectives of Research: -**

1. Find out behind politics of the reservation policy in India.
2. Case study to patel, Gurjar, Jat and Marathg community; Study its reservation movements and its influence to reservation policy.
3. Study the influence of reservation movements in to the new retention policy are retention the principle of Social Justice.

### **The politics of reservation and the OBC votebank.**

After the Mandal Commission recommendation on the implementation of reservation for other Backward Classes (OBC), reservation politics is on the boil once again. Even as powerful middle castes across the country agitate for reservation, some politicians have begun advocating reservation in the private sector as well.

**Mandal verses Kamandal Politics: -**

OBC's who constitute a little less than half of India's electorate are a vastly heterogeneous group. There are some Jatis or Sub castes which have significant shares in land ownership but constitute a relatively lower proportion of the population. This section of OBC (yadav's and kurmis in Bihar and UP) accounting for roughly one – third of the OBC population in the country are what we define as upper OBC's. The other section of OBC is (such as Badhais, /ohars, Kewats etc. ) who have traditionally had a smaller share in the rural economy, and account for roughly two – thirds of the OBC population in the country are what we define as lower OBC's.<sup>1</sup>

In 1979 Morarji Desai Government appointed a commission under chairmanship of Bindheshwari Prasad Mandal. In its findings commission identified total 3743 different caste and communities as backward on one or other Parameters. These castes comprised of almost 52% of total population of India. In recommendations, commission proposed the idea of giving 27% reservation to these backward cast in public employment along with SC & ST.

Between the force of Mandus & Kamandal – as equal of shorts of the original fight between politics of social justice Vs communalism of the 1980s and 1990s V. P. Singh government had brought mandal commission which gave 27% reservation to other Backward classes among Hindus which had triggered violent agitation by upper caste groups. BJP which was external support of V. P. Sign Government it was belived that L. K. Adwani Rathyatra in the 90s was also a counter to mandal politics that was perceived by the sangh pariwar as something which divided the hindus<sup>3</sup> the quotel politics which was countered by the Ram temple pitch famously described in the political /exicom as Mandal Vs Kamandal (Social Justice Vs Commutation Politics)

**Reservation agitation and Politics**

Gujrat's Patel, Rajsthan's Gurjar, Hariyanas Jat and Maharashtras Maratha its four and other community that stirred reservation agitation in India.

1] Patel – Gujarat Patel community in a massive rally demanding reservation under the OBC / quota on August 2015.” The Patel Community led by patidar Aarakshan Andolan Samiti convener Hardik Patel, has been demanding a 27 % reservation in Government Jobs and education under the OBC category. In Gujarat Patidar is majority and Politically influential community in Gujarat. July 2015 his agitation turned violent. The Gujarat Government announced offers of scholarship and subsidies to general category student on 24 sep 2015 and a 10 % quota of spaces reserved for economically Backward classes in April 2016. The 10 % reservation was quashed by Gujarat high court in 2016<sup>4</sup> after that ‘Patel Aarakshan’ have big issue & every elections in Gujarat.

2] Gurjar :- In Rajasthan Gurjar community their organization Gurjar Aarakshan sangharsh Samiti in Rajasthan, demanding for Gurjar Community's inclusion in the ST category in Rajasthan. The impact of this movement was also seen in Delhi, UP, Haryana. Gurjar reservation movement revival in 2008 because of the upcoming assembly elections in the state after that in 2015, 2017 big movement have done by Gurjar. Finally the OBC Reservation amendment bill ws passed in Rajasthan Assembly in 2017. It's increased 21% to

26%. This arrangement has been made to give 50% reservation to Gurjar. But Rajasthan HC gave notice to contempt Government want to giving reservation to the Gurjars the total quota limit is more than 50 %<sup>5</sup>. This is the reason Gurjar reservation currently retained.

3] Jat :- In Hariyana the Jat community was awarded reservation under the OBC category in 1999. But in 2015, eight writ petitions were filled challenging the reservation following that, the supreme court dismissed the central government's decision to include Jats in the OBC category, stating that caste cannot be the sole factor to decide backwardness of a community.

4] Maratha :- Maratha reservation has been burning issue in Maharashtra politics for the last fifteen year. Marathas has been demanding to 20% reservation in Government Jobs and education under the OBC category. In 2014, the congress NCP Government made a provision of 16 % reservation for Maratha. For this , the category of Economic and Backward community' was created for the first time, thus the total reservation in the state was more than 50% quota, later the Bombay high court stayed the Maratha reservation , saying that Marathas cannot be counted as backward classes after that Maratha started 'Maratha Muka Morcha' and 'Maratha Aarakshan Aandolan' sence 2014 – The Maharashtra Government had on 30/11/2018 declared a bill unanimously in the state legislature that gave Maratha 16% reservation in education and jobs under a newly created socially and educationally Backward class (SEBC) category<sup>7</sup>. In June 2019 Bombay High Court allowed 12 % and 13% reservation respectively education and jobs for Maratha Caste (SEBC)

Maratha constitute around 33% of the total population of Maharashtra. This community is also very influential and powerful politically of the 17 chief ministers formed in Maharashtra since the state formation in 1960, 10 are from this community. Not only this, since the formation of state, more than half of the MLAs here choose from the Maratha Community. About 50% of the educational institutions in the state are controlled by Maratha leaders. Sugar mills have a special role in Maharashtra economy of the 200 sugar mills in state, 168 are controlled by Marathas similarly, Marathas control about 70% of district co-operative banks.<sup>8</sup>

### **Conclusion: -**

'Social and educationally backwardness is the basic principle of reservation' After the Mandal commition implementation the third reservation group 'OBC' establish. According to the new quota, every community want reservation for that they started movement. Since 1990 the Indian politics influing the reservation policy therefore when we want understanding the issue of reservation and politics, we need to focus on the contemporary reservation policy.

Due to the slight development of SC/ST/OBC castes through reservation, the reservation were considered as the parameters of development. That is why the dominant caste of every state started to try to get development opportunities through the reservation. Therefore, the castes, who are truly beneficiaries, stayed away from the reservation. And this dominant caste using our force of numbers and started trying to the reservation beneficiary. Thus the marginalized truly backward castes went away from the reservation benefits. Thus the principle of social justice, behind the reservation long away. This research paper shows this conclusion.

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