

UPSC

(Specimen Answer Booklet - For Practice Purpose Only)

Day-6.

Candidates must not write on this margin

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75 years after independence, there is a growing call to revisit India's reservation system in the larger interest of society and to advance transformative constitutionalism. Critically analyze the need for reassessing the reservation policy to ensure Social Justice and inclusive development.

(38, M)

Article - 15 & 16 is the bedrock of positive discrimination in India. It provides reservation to the socially - economically weaker section in govt. jobs as well as educational institutes. The very aim of the reservation system was to address historical injustice being done to marginalized section of society and to brought them back to mainline of society in development of 'Social Capital' of India.

Rationality of Indian reservation System:-

The rationale for reservation system is to provide support to the group which are lagging behind the societal economical indicator.

The policy of reservation is logical conclusion of equal protection of law and also derives its authority from the doctrine of "equality of opportunity".

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Evolution of ^{Caste based} Indian Reservation System.

SC and ST :-

↳ Demand arose during freedom movement in the form of separate and joint electorate.

↳ Included in Indian Constitution after Independence in Article - 341 & 342.

OBC :-

↳ ^{Firstly} Came out in public discourse through Kelkar Commission to provide reservation to other backward casts.

↳ 2nd OBC Commission led by B.P. Mandal form the bedrock of OBC reservation in India and incorporated in Constitution through Article - 340.

↳ It provided 27.5% reservation.

EWS :-

↳ 103rd am Constitutional Amendment Act - 2019 provided for 10% reservation to the Economically weaker sections.

Aim and objectives of Indian Reservation:-

1. Improvement of historical injustice to be done to marginalized section of society through prohibition of the practice of "Untouchability" a worst form of discrimination. (Art-17)
2. Fulfilling the "Equality of opportunity" as enshrined in the preamble of our Constitution.
3. To ensure Right based Empowerment and to provide them to lead a dignified life.
4. Promotion of Upward mobility to the marginalised sections in society.
5. ~~Catering~~ Catering a way for economical and political ~~development~~ participation through inclusive development.
6. Promotion of Social Justice among members of society through formation of social cohesion which is very good for Social Capital development of India.
7. ultimate aim is to achieve a Casteless Society.

outcomes of Indian reservation in 75 yrs

Social Justice

Concept of Social Justice evolved upto a greater extent which has changed the political dynamics of Country through various socialistic parties.

Identity based Politics

It resulted in the rise of Identity-based politics in various States of Society, shifting the power dynamics of Country.

Upward Mobility

~~Although~~ Slow but steady paced social upliftment has been achieved through Equality of opportunity provided in Constitution.

Inclusive Development

Throughout the 75 yrs, reservation ~~provided~~ brought back the marginalised sections in main line of social, economic and political activity which resulted in inclusive development.

Race to bottom

For taking advantage of reservation various upper Castes such as Jats in Haryana, Rajput in Rajasthan, Maratha in (MH) race towards bottom in Society.

Dominance effect

Citing its benefits, various ^{another high status} groups also started negotiation which creates dominance effect

Discrimination

Untouchability changed its form to invisible discrimination in social and economic sphere. And in the same time Sanskritization increased the discrimination among the lower sections ^{itself} as compare to High Caste — low Caste.

In this 75 years of Journey reservation system worked as a balancing force but its spreadness and outreach ~~has not~~ to the last line have not touched yet. Society evolved in throughout the time encountering various phases changes in world from Socialistic, uncoupled economy to the globalised world. This raised new challenges and their interpretation.

Therefore our reservation system also need to reassessment citing its backdrop and achievements ~~through~~ in these years.

Beyond this, state policies ^{should} ~~may~~ also have to be focused on upskilling of youth workforce in line with the new technology and innovation which will lead to inclusive development of a Society.