

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO -288
ANSWERED ON – 20/08/2025

MAKING FRESH CASTE CERTIFICATE MANDATORY FOR OBC CANDIDATES

288 # SMT. MAYA NAROLIYA

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether it is mandatory for OBC candidates to submit a fresh caste certificate every year for admission to Central services and educational institutions;
- (b) whether it is a fact that SC/ST candidates are exempted from this annual renewal;
- (c) whether Government is considering making OBC caste certificates, once issued, permanently valid; and
- (d) if so, the details of the proposal, and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement in answer to parts (a) to (d) of the Rajya Sabha Starred Question no. 288 for 20.08.2025 regarding Making fresh caste certificate mandatory for OBC candidates.

(a) As per DoPT O.M No.36012/22/93-Estt.(SCT) dated 08.09.1993, if the persons having gross annual income of Rs. 1.00 lakh or above (now revised to Rs. 8.00 Lakh) for three consecutive years then that person is determined to fall into Creamy Layer category. The creamy layer status of an OBC candidate may change any time and therefore it is not possible to determine a fix validity period for the OBC certificate.

(b) A Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) certificate shall be valid for lifetime.

(c) and (d) The creamy layer status of an OBC candidate may change any time and therefore it is not possible to determine a fix validity period for the OBC certificate. As per the DoPT O.M No.36033/4/97-Estt. (Res.) dated 25.07.2003, the appointing authority, before appointing a person seeking appointment on the basis of reservation to OBCs, needs to verify the veracity of the community certificate submitted by the candidate and also the fact that he/she does not fall in Creamy layer on the crucial date. The crucial date for this purpose may be treated as the closing date for receipt of applications for the post except in cases where crucial date is fixed otherwise.

In order to ensure that candidates, not eligible to get reservation, do not seek reservation, a declaration, in addition to certificate issued by the competent authority is obtained from the candidates seeking reservation as OBCs.
