

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO– 2000
ANSWERED ON- 17.12.2025

Reservation for OBCs in PRIs

2000 Shri Ryaga Krishnaiah:

Will the Minister of **PANCHAYATI RAJ** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step for reservation of seats for OBCs to improve participation in Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), and to address the issue of token representation;

(b) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

(c) the number of elected Other Backward Class (OBC) representatives in the PRI during last five years; and

(d) the details thereof and the progress made so far, State-wise?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH)

(a) & (b) “Panchayat”, being “Local Government”, is a State subject and part of State List of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. Panchayats are set up and operate through the respective State Panchayati Raj Acts which may vary from State to State, subject to the provisions of the Constitution. Accordingly, all matters relating to Panchayats,

including participation of Other Backward Class in Panchayati Raj Institutions or to address the issue of their token representation, come within the purview of the State Government concerned. Further, there is no provision of reservation of seats for Other Backward Class in the Part-IX of Constitution of India. However, State Legislature has been empowered under clause (6) of Article 243D to make provisions for reservation of seats in any Panchayat or offices of Chairpersons in the Panchayats at any level in favour of Backward class of citizens.

(c) & (d) The caste based data of Elected Representatives, including Other Backward Class, is not maintained by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
