

# **National Seminar on Reservation Policy and Its Implementation at Educational Institutions and Public Employment Sectors in India**

**(NIEPA, New Delhi: January 16-17, 2025)**



**Organised by**  
**Department of Educational Policy**  
**National Institute of Educational**  
**Planning and Administration**

**(Deemed to be University)**

**17-B, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi – 110016, INDIA**

## About the Seminar

Reservation in education and employment is an important policy of the state to address the educational and economic needs of the disadvantaged and weaker sections of the society. 'Positive discrimination' means preferential selection of a member of an under-represented groups (URGs) to the position in the larger society. It is policy tool for providing greater social, political and economic opportunities to the under-represented social groups. The policy is referred as 'affirmative action' in the U.S. and 'reservation policy' in India. The social segregations of Dalits (Scheduled Castes) and geographical isolations of Adivasi (Scheduled Tribes) from the mainstreams of Indian Society denied access to education for thousands of years. These two social groups – SCs and STs constitute more than one fourth of total population of the country were remained economically poor and educationally backward. To bring them into the mainstream of the society, the Constitution adopted two-fold strategies for ensuring equality for the 'depressed classes. On the one hand it provided equality before the law, ensuring that everyone irrespective of their castes, class, race etc. will receive equal protection of the law and treated alike, on the other hand it empowered the state to make special provisions in the form of reservation in education, employment and state and union legislatures to promote the interest of the SCs, STs, OBCs under the articles 15, 16, 17, 46, 164, 243, 330, 332, 334, 335, 338 340, 341, 342 & 366 of the Constitution.

The First Amendment to the Constitution in 1951 was made where we gave special privileges in the form of reservation for certain community and certain castes. At the time when the Constitution was framed, it mentioned 1108 castes being treated as untouchables in this country. These castes were listed in the Schedule of the Indian Constitution. As a result they came to be called as Scheduled Caste in the post-independent India. The words like untouchables, harijans or anything else which were used during

the freedom movement was considered as undignified for them as a human being. When country became a Republic, the SCs and STs constituted 15% and 7.5% respectively of the total population of the country. The reservation is provided on the basis of their population. The political reservation at state assembly and parliament was meant for ten years. This was a temporary measure. After 10 years they will have some check or survey to see whether this is serving the purpose or not. If it is done well, we will get rid of this provision. If not it will continue for another 10 years. This was the conditional provision in the Constitution. Dr. Ambedkar believes that keeping reservation for certain section of the population and keeping away other sections from it is not democratic. It goes against the basic philosophy of equality and egalitarianism.

After three years of formulation of Constitution, a separate commission was set up by the Government of India under the chairmanship of Kaka Kalekar in 1953 for Other Backward Classes. The Kaka Kalekar Commission was appointed to satisfy the Article 15(4) and 340(1) of the India Constitution. Due to difference of opinion among the members of the commission, the recommendations could not be implemented. After a gap of 25 years the Janata Government in 1978 had appointed the second All -India Backward Class Commission under the chairmanship of B.P. Mandal which had submitted in its report in 1980. The Mandal commission identified 3734 castes comprising of 52 percent of the population. The Supreme Court ruled that the reservation should not exceed 50%. Keeping in mind the highest Court Order, the Commission recommended 27% reservation for OBCs in central and state services, public undertakings and educational institutions. The Commission recommended that caste should be the basis for the reservation and there should be 27% for reservation in central and state services public undertakings and educational institutions. The Congress Government did not implement the Mandal Commission Report. After a gap of nearly 20 years, the report was implemented by the Janta Dal Government.

The present government introduced 124<sup>th</sup> Constitutional Amendment Bill in the Parliament on 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 to provide reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) among the general category candidates. The move was to provide the 10% reservation to EWS category in Education and employment sector. The Bill was passed in both the Houses of the Parliament. and became Act.

In view of above context, the Department of Educational Policy of the University is organizing two days '**National Seminar on Reservation Policy and its Implementation at Educational Institutions and Public Employment Sectors in India**' at NIEPA, New Delhi from 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

## Objectives of the Seminar

- To share the empirical evidences available in implementation of Reservation Policy at higher and technical institutions;
- To discuss the implementation of policy at employment level; and
- To deliberate upon the legal implications of recent Constitutional Amendment to Reservation Policy for Economically Weaker Sections in India

## Themes

- Genesis of Reservation Policy: Indian Context
- Affirmative action for the welfare of the disadvantaged sections: Theoretical dimension
- Enrolment of disadvantaged groups in higher including technical education.
- Implementation strategy adopted in India for Disadvantaged groups
- Inequality, Education, Employment and Marginalised sections
- Reservation Policy: Recruitment and promotion in Public Employment

- Constitutional Law and recent Constitutional Amendment to Reservation Policy for Economically Weaker Sections in India
- NEP 2020: Focus on Equity and inclusion

## Target Groups

Academicians and Research Scholars of the Universities/Institutions and Educational Administrators

## Call for Papers

The two days National seminar invites paper from the listed stake holders and experts at the state and national level. The authors are invited to submit original, unpublished (not simultaneously submitted to another general or conference). Research papers, case studies, best practices and implementation strategies on the related themes. The submitted paper will be subjected to the review of experts and only accepted papers will be consider for presentation during the seminar.

- Abstract of all papers will be published in seminar proceedings and e-copy/copy of the same will be provided to all the participants.
- The selected papers will be considered for published in an edited book with ISBN number.
- Certificate will be provided to all the participants those who will attend the two-day Seminar.

## Guidelines for Submission of Papers

1. The final paper should not exceed 5000-6000 words including tables, figures, graphs and bibliography/ references (APA style).
2. Text should be in MS Word with 1.5 space, font in Times New Roman and font size should be 12 typed in A4 sheet.
3. The soft copy of the paper should be mailed at: [skmallik@nipea.ac.in](mailto:skmallik@nipea.ac.in).

## Important Dates

- ⇒ Submission of Abstract: **28 November, 2024**
- ⇒ Acceptance of abstract: **30 November, 2024**
- ⇒ Submission of full Paper: **16 December, 2024**

## Travel Details

Research scholars will be provided III tier AC train fare and the faculty members working under universities and institutions are entitled to travel by air in shortest route by economy class as per rules. The local participants will be provided be local conveyance for attending the Seminar.

## Accommodation

All the outstation participants will be provided free boarding and lodging (twin sharing basis) in NIEPA hostel. **It would be not be possible, however to accommodate any family member/ relative of the participants in the NIEPA Hostel.**

## Contact Person

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