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PART I—Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Writers' Buildings, Block I, 2nd Floor
Kolkata 700 001

No. 544-BCW/MR-302/97

Kolkata, the 13th February, 2003.

NOTIFICATION

I am directed by order of the Governor to say that the matter relating to reservation of seats for admission to educational institutions for candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes was under active consideration of this Government for sometime past. After careful consideration of all aspects in this regard, the Governor is pleased to order as follows:—

1. (a) 7% of the seats shall be reserved for the candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes (other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) (hereinafter referred to as 'OBC candidates') in all schools up to Higher Secondary level including the following:—

- (i) all Primary Schools run by District Primary School Council, Corporations or Municipalities and similar other bodies aided by the Government of West Bengal;
- (ii) all Government, Government sponsored and recognised non-Government aided Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools.

(b) The reservation for 'OBC candidates' as provided in para (a) above shall be maintained separately for each stream, wherever such stream exists.

(c) While calculating the number of reserved seats for 'OBC candidates', a fraction of 0.5 and above shall be treated as one seat.

2. The reservation provided in para 1 shall not apply to schools which are recognised as minority institutions.

3. A general merit list based exclusively on merit as reflected in the results of the relevant examination/selection test shall be prepared separately for each class/stream in each educational institution to fill up the unreserved seats. Separate merit list for 'OBC candidates' shall be prepared for each class/stream in each educational institution to fill up the seats reserved for the 'OBC candidates'. The 'OBC candidates' who have been placed in the general merit list to fill up unreserved seats shall not be taken into account in the reserved list for 'OBC candidates'.

4. For filling up reserved seats in any stream at Higher Secondary level, candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes, who have secured minimum marks as per relevant regulation for admission to any such stream as may be prescribed by the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education shall be given admission forms by the educational institutions for any such stream.

5. For the purpose of allotment of stream at the Higher Secondary level when there is dearth of adequate number of seats in relation to number of 'OBC candidates' opting for the stream, the 'OBC candidates' in the unreserved merit list shall be placed respectively at the top of the reserved list for 'OBC candidates'. Thereafter, allotment of stream to 'OBC candidates' placed in the general merit list and those placed in reserved lists shall be made on the basis of their inter-se merit and their options against the reserved seats plus those unreserved seats earmarked for 'OBC candidates' included in the general merit list.

6. Seats reserved for 'OBC candidates' and remaining unfilled even after following the instructions laid down in the previous paragraphs may be filled up by general candidates after obtaining necessary clearance from the District Magistrate/Commissioner/Joint Commissioner for reservation, Backward Classes Welfare Department in the manner laid down in this department's memorandum No. 1032(73)-BCW dt. the 7th May, 1999.

7. The head of each educational institution shall submit an Annual Return on admission of students into various classes in that institution to the respective District Magistrates and *ex officio* District Commissioners for Reservation in each of the institutions located outside the district of Kolkata and to the Joint Commissioner for Reservation and *ex officio* Joint Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Backward Classes Welfare Department, in case of institutions located in the district of Kolkata by 31st December each year in such form as may be prescribed by the Government.

This order shall come into force at once.

By order of the Governor,

S. BARMA,
Principal Secy. to the Govt. of West Bengal.