



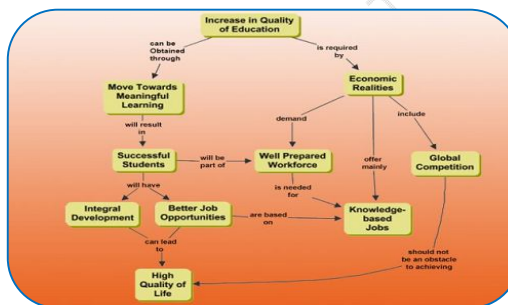
## EFFECTS OF RESERVATION POLICY ON OVERALL GROWTH OF INDIAN ECONOMY

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### ABSTRACT :

The paper evaluates caste based reservation system in India. The Primary stated objective of Indian reservation system is to increase the opportunities for enhanced social status for underprivileged. The reservation system exists to provide opportunities for the members of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes. Reservation is working in the opposition direction to its main objective as it is demorating the society further. It is being used to uplift one section of the society at the cost of another, which is not fair.

Instead of this there should be equal opportunities for all moreover a capable candidate does not need any certificate of being from a lower caste to prove their worth. It is his mind, education and ability to compete that can bring change in life. Taking a seat just by showing your under privileged certificate won't give you anything, but just the degree or job. In this paper all important information & effects of reservation on Indian Economy are given.



**KEYWORDS :** Reservation, Indian govt., Social equity, democracy, policies, economic growth, other backward classes etc.

### INTRODUCTION

The system of Reservation in India consists of a series of measures, such as reserving access to seats in the various legislatures, to government jobs, and to enrollment in higher educational institutions. The reservation nourishes the historically disadvantaged castes and tribes, listed as Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes by the Govt. of India, also those designated as other Backwards classes (OBCs) and also the economically background general. The reservation is undertaken to address the historic operation, inequality and discrimination faced by those communities and to give these communities a place. It is intended to realise the promise of equality enshrined in the constitution.

The constitution prohibits untouchability and obligates the state to make special provision for the betterment of the SCs and STs. Over years, the categories for affirmative action, also known as positive discrimination, have been expanded beyond those to the OBCs. Reservation is governed by the constitution, statutory laws and local rules and regulations. The SCs, STs and OBCs, and in some States Backward Classes among Muslims under a category called BC(M), are the primary beneficiaries of the reservation policies. There have been protests from groups outside the system who feel that it is inequitable.

### RESERVATION HISTORICALLY:

The evil of reservations in India and has a very long history. According to some caste based reservation in India started in 2nd Century B.C. where upper castes enjoyed caste based reservation. But it was not always in the favour of the upper castes. In the year 1902, ChatrapatiSahujiMaharaj,

Emperor of Kolhapur in Maharashtra introduced reservation in favour of backward classes to eradicate poverty and give them chance to participate in the state administration. 50% seats were reserved for them in State services. This was a good move by the Maharaja considering that British took a lot of advantages from this.

#### **RESERVATION BEFORE INDEPENDENCE:**

Reservation was actually a blessing in disguise from the British Raj. In 1933, British introduced the communal Award, According to which separate representation was to be provided for the Muslims, Sikhs, Indian Christians, Anglo-Indians, Europeans, Dalit. The depressed classes were assigned a number of seats to be filled by election from special constituencies in which voters belonging to the depressed classes only could vote. This was protested by Mahatma Gandhiji and he went on a hunger strike. It is then various prominent leaders like Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar had an agreement with Gandhiji referred as Poona Act. However it was still continued through norms were made a lot easier. Gandhiji knew the tactics of British 'Divide & Rule' policy. He saved the nation from it at that time, but alas! he couldn't have guessed that it would be such a major issue in coming years.

#### **RESERVATION AT INDEPENDENCE:**

India achieved independence in 1947 and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was made head of the drafting committee of the Indian Constitution. With that an endless debate on the matter of reservation started. The limit was then decided accordingly. A reservation of 27% was provided and many castes were scheduled in SC and ST category. This was started as a noble cause but it was met by strong resistance and reforms.

#### **SUPREME DECISIONS:**

There were many notable cases which made reforms in this policy. In 1951 the case of State of Madras Vs. Smt. Champakam Dorairajan, Court has pronounced that caste based reservations as per communal award violates basic rights. Nehru Govt. reacted and 1st constitutional amendment was introduced to make this judgement invalid. In 1953, Kalekar commission was established to assess the situation of the socially and educationally backward class. It made significant observations but a reservation of 27% was set.

#### **RESERVATION CANNOT EXCEED:**

In 1963, Court put 50% cap on reservations in the case of MR Balaji V Mysore. In any case, whatsoever, reservation cannot be exceed more than 50%. This was legendary judgement but it provided a provision that state government can amend it according to the needs but they have to provide a serious cause supported by data. Till now only 2 States Tamil Nadu (69%, under 9th schedule), and Rajasthan 68%. exceeded this limit.

#### **MANDAL COMMISSION:**

Mandal commission was headed by Indian parliamentarian B.P. Mandal to consider the question of seat reservations and quotas for people still under caste discrimination and used eleven social, economic and educational indicators to determine backwardness in 1979 under Janta Party rule. It suggested a new group of castes called as Other Backward Classes and suggested that reservation may lift by 50% to the existing 27%.

#### **PROTESTS:**

There were wide spread protests against this policy. There were marches by students and many refuse to continue daily classes. There were even incidents of students burning themselves to protest. Rajiv Goswami was the first student to attempt self-immolation while a student at Delhi University. It was a horrible thing to witness at that time.

**RESERVATION PASSED:**

Despite of all protests, in 1990s the recommendations of the Mandala Commission were implemented in Government jobs by VishwanathPratap Singh. It was then continued by the Manmohan Singh Govt. The govt. proposed to reserve 27% of seats in the premier educational institutions of India like AIIMS, IITS, NITS, and other Central Institutions of higher education for the OBCs in order to help them against higher levels of representation in these institutions. Despite of protests, the judgement was upheld by the Supreme Court by a 'Creame Layer' was introduced in OBCs that were excluded of reservation.

**PROBLEMS IN DETERMINING CASTES:**

Because untouchability was not present all over India, it was very difficult to include a caste in OBCs. Mandal Commission recognized 1,257 communities as backward, to estimate the OBC population at 52% As to 2006 number of castes in Backward Class list went up to an astonishing rate of 2297 which is an increase of 60% from community list prepared by Mandal Commission.

**SOME OTHER RESERVATIONS:**

In 2010, women reservations bill passed in the upper house, Rajya Sabha which gave 83% reservation to women.

In 2012, 25% reservation is provided to reservation category children in the Govt. aided & private schools under the right to education Act which passed earlier by the parliament.

In January 2016 Government has given 33% reservations to women in all paramilitary forces, including Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

Supreme Court has ruled some judgement that have maintained some fairness in the reservation system but they have been limited in Impact.

9 January 2019 :10% reservation for economically weak in general category comes into force. Due to this more and more caste has been doing their best to be included in the reservation quota. Despite many efforts the protest have been increasing more & more by many castes to include them in the quota. Be it the gujjar protests on the recent Jat protests in Haryana.

**Are reservations affecting India's growth in some way?:**

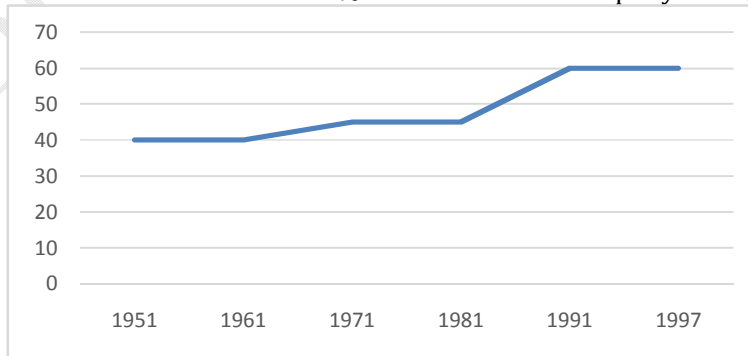
India the reason for India's under development is unequal distribution of wealth, education and power among its citizens.

**Comparison of Indian States:**

Let's Compare the Bimaru States which have low reservations 69% since 1980s.

**HDI Changes:**

HDI from 1981 Tamilnadu which starts from 40% reservation moves rapidly to 69% reservation.



**Tamilnadu Reservation Timeline.**

**Note:** Remember if the reservation policy is announced today it will get 38 years for the demographic profile of employees to change. However, in TN which had 40% reservation already the changes in bureaucracy was rapid.

The crossover point of 60% was a deciding factor.

**Empathy, not efficiency:**

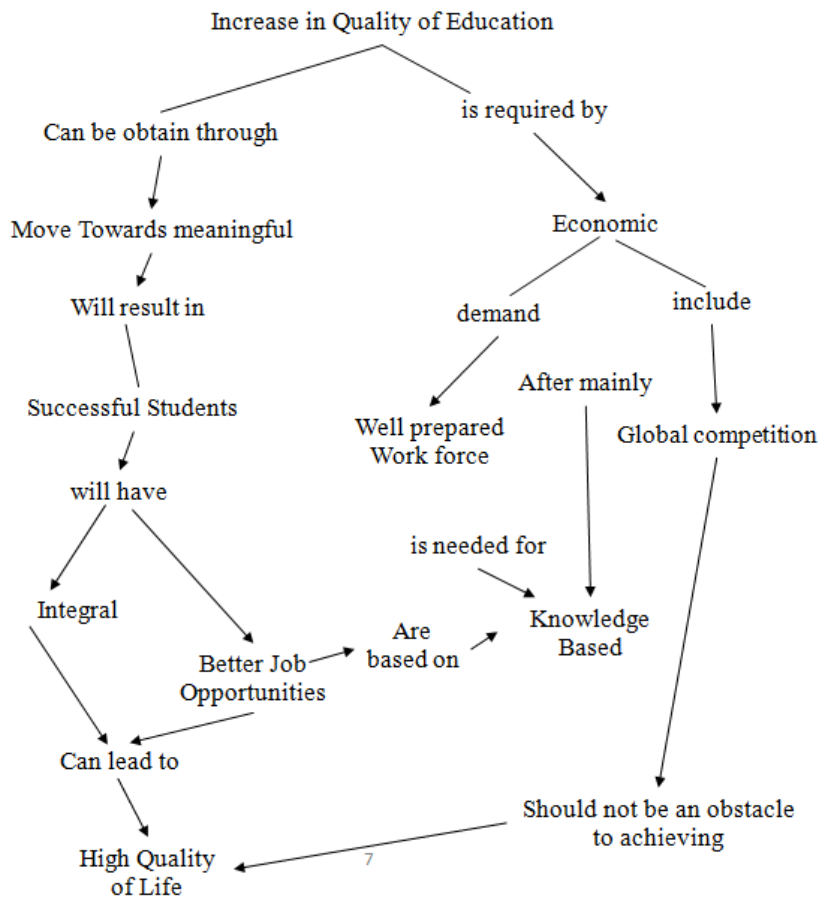
As long as the general category held more than 60% seats, the resource allocation committes ensured that govt. resources were diverted away from social development that reaches the underprivileged to that of concerns of upper castes. With more than 60% reservations, the tables were turned. Resources started flowing to where it is needed - Schooling, nutrition, medical care, higher education, access to information etc.

Many of these were described as 'Freebies' - but the effect they had on the underprivileged is enormous.

**General Category apathy:**

The staff there seem to be providing the worst govt. services. The general category apathy is delivering to the govt. services to the rural poor is the reason why our country has not developed so far. The transition point is when the reservations crossover 60% and closer to proportional representation.

**MAIN MOTIVE OF RESERVATION SHOWN WITH THE HELP OF A DIAGRAM**



**10% RESERVATION FOR ECONOMICALLY WEAK IN GENERAL CATEGORY COMES INTO FORCE:**

- \* The Act amends Articles 15 & 16 of the constitution to provide 10% reservation in govt. jobs and education to economically backward section in the general category.
- \* The bill was passed by parliament on January 9, 2019.
- \* The reservation would be "in addition to the existing reservations an subject to a maximum of 10% of the total seats in each category.

**CONSEQUENCES OF RESERVATION:**

- \* In the Higher Education Institutes and Govt. Bodies reserved category for academics & competitive exam.
- \* The financial status of the reserved category people is increasing and well supported by the govt.
- \* The exploited non reserved category persons who missed the opportunity because someone else has taken his place have become miserable in the poor economic conditions of India.
- \* The percentage of SC, ST and OBC in government institutions have risen sharply, today the total percentage of reserved category persons working in these institution is about 40%.
- \* SC and ST students are also entitled to relaxation in respect of the upper age limit as well as concession of lower cut-off-qualifying marks (5-10%) etc.

**CONCLUSION:**

Inclusion and equality were the core intentions of the people who first Introduced the concept of reservation in India. Reservation has undoubtedly served its purpose of uplifting the un-resourceful in a very effective way. Lives of millions of people have changed, their financial status, their social status has turned around they are living a life of respect and comfort. But soon many started to take it as granted. Many high caste people are struggling to declare themselves as backward due to this reason. Its killing the quality of work force & stopping meritorious and deserving candidates to get their rightful place.

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