

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1278  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003  
JOB OPPORTUNITIES TO OBCs  
P.D. ELANGO VAN

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

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- (a) Whether the Government has provided adequate job opportunities to the persons belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC) in the various Departments under the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) Whether the OBC staff strength is far less than what it should be in comparison to the total strength, particularly in Groups A and B;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government to provide adequate representation to OBC?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b) Yes. The Government regulations on reservation of posts for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) provide that 27 per cent of the vacancies in civil services and posts to be filled through direct recruitment shall be reserved for Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Moreover, Candidates belonging to OBCs recruited on the basis of merit in an open competition on the same standards prescribed for the general candidates shall not be adjusted against the reservation quota. The Government has been providing reservation for the OBCs in all grades where there is an element of direct recruitment.

The details in respect of Ministry of External Affairs Secretariat (MEA), Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Central Passport Organisation (CPO), since 1995 when the reservation for OBCs was introduced, are as under:

**MEA Secretariat**

Group	Number of OBCs recruited
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A	35
B	60
C	42
D	22
Total	159

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)

There has been no direct recruitment in ICCR ever since the introduction of reservation for OBC category. Hence, the number of OBCs recruited in ICCR, since 1995 when the reservation for OBCs was introduced, is Nil.

Central Passport Organisation (CPO)

Group #	Number of OBCs recruited ##
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C 112  
D 11

Total 223

(# There is no direct recruitment in Group A and B level posts in CPO,  
and hence the number of OBCs recruited in Group A and B is Nil.)

(## Since 1995 when the reservation for OBCs was introduced)

(c),(d) & (e) The following statistics give a picture of implementation of reservation for OBC Category in Group A and B posts in the Ministry of External Affairs:

Group Percentage of posts filled by OBC Category (as against the prescribed limit of 27%)

A 29%  
B 28.7%

It is evident from the above that the Government is providing for representation of OBCs in accordance with the norms and guidelines on the subject. The Government continues to ensure adequate representation of OBCs in posts filled through direct recruitment.