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Title: Regarding employment for youth in Chandigarh.

SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER (CHANDIGARH): Thank you Madam Speaker. Today, I would like to draw the attention of the house to a pressing issue in my constituency Chandigarh. There is an immediate need to increase the upper age limit for entering into the Government service in Chandigarh Administration.

The Chandigarh Administration is based on the patterns of recruitment in Punjab. Much like other union territories, it has compact and limited posts available in the department. But recently, there has been a move to raise the educational qualification for some positions from a simple 10+2 to a Bachelor's degree. The age limit for applying to these positions has, however, remained 18-25. As one can then note, access to job opportunities are more or less restricted. If there is an enhancement in the educational qualifications, there needs to be a corresponding increase in the prescribed age limit.

Even the Government of India has prescribed 30 years as the maximum age limit for appearing in civil service examinations. Various workers have been continually demanding their equal and fair rights. They bring out these notifications five or six years later and by that time people take private jobs. As it is in Punjab, we would like the Chandigarh Administration to push that age limit from 18-25 to 18 to 37 years otherwise people will miss the bus completely.

Madam, the Chandigarh Administration has limited posts. It is a very important point. Being a UT, residents of all States are eligible to get employment in Chandigarh. People from Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Haryana get jobs here but when Chandigarh residents want jobs in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh or in Punjab, they are not considered eligible because they are having the domicile of Chandigarh. So, either we should have some reserved posts for the people of Chandigarh or they should also be given equal opportunities in other States.

Thank you.