Ministry of Home Affairs O.M. No. 27/25/68-Estt.(SCT)  
dated 25th March, 1970 to all Ministries etc.

Subject :—Reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Services—revision of Percentages 
and period of carrying forward of such reservations—Utilisation of vacancies reserved for 
Scheduled Castes in favour of Scheduled Tribes and vice-versa.

Revision of percentage of reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in services.

The question of revising the percentages of reservation in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled 
Tribes in posts and services under the Government of India in the light of the population of these communities 
as shown in the 1961 Census has been under the consideration of Government for some time. It has now been 
decided to revise these percentages as indicated in the Ministry of Home Affairs Resolution No. 27/25/68- 

Period for carrying forward of reservations.

2. According to the instruction in this Ministry's O.M. No. 1/4/64-SCT(I) dated 2nd September, 1964, 
vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes which are not filled by candidates of the appropriate 
communities due to non-availability of candidates of these communities are required to be carried forward 
to subsequent two recruitment years. It has now been decided by Government that the period for carrying forward of 
the reserved vacancies should be increased from two to three subsequent recruitment years. Accordingly, 
if a vacancy arising, say, in the year 1970 is reserved for Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and no suitable candidate of the appropriate community is forthcoming the reservation would be carried forward to the next recruitment year and if during that year also no suitable candidate of the appropriate community is forthcoming the reservation would be similarly carried forward to the next two recruitment years before it is treated as lapsed.

Exchange of vacancies between Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the last year to which the reserved vacancies are carried forward.

3. The question of utilisation of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes, in favour of Scheduled Tribes 
and vice-versa has also been considered by Government, and it has been decided, in modification of the orders 
contained in this Ministry's O.M. No. 1/7/62-SCT(I), dated 24th September, 1962 that while vacancies reserved 
for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes may continue to be treated as reserved for the respective community only. Scheduled Tribes candidates may also be considered for appointment against a vacancy reserved for Scheduled Castes candidates where such a vacancy could not be filled by a Scheduled Castes candidate even in the third year to which the vacancy is carried forward. While advertising or notifying a vacancy which has been carried forward to the third year, it should therefore be made clear in the advertisement/requisition that while the vacancy is reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes candidates would also be eligible for consideration in the event of non-availability of suitable Scheduled Caste candidates. This arrangement will likewise apply also in the case of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Tribes.

4. In view of the decisions in paras 2-3 above, all vacancies arising on or after the date of issue of this O.M. which are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but are not filled by members of the respective community shall be carried forward to three subsequent recruitment years instead of two recruitment years as at present. Reserved vacancies which had arisen prior to the date of issue of this O.M. and which have already been carried forward for one year will now be carried forward to two more recruitment years and similarly reserved vacancies which have been carried forward for two years will be carried forward to the third recruitment year as well. In the third year of carry forward of reserved vacancies candidates from both Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be considered against reserved vacancies in accordance with the provisions in para 3 above.

5. Ministry of Finance etc. are requested to bring the above decisions also to the notice of all authorities 
under them, including the public sector undertakings and the semi-Government bodies with which they are 
administratively concerned.

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