

**Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms O.M. No.36011/6/75-Estt.(SCT),
dated the 7th May, 1975, to all Ministries/Departments, etc.**

Subject :—Reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in promotions made by selection in or to Class II, and upto the lowest rung of Class I—zone of consideration.

The undersigned is directed to say that in para 2(i) of this Department O.M. No. 10/41/73-Estt. (SCT), dated 20th July, 1974, it has been stated that in the case of promotions by selection from Class III to Class II, within Class II and from Class II to the lowest rung of Class I, selection against vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be made only from among those Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes officers who are within the "normal zone of consideration". Enquiries have been received in this Department seeking clarification whether the words "normal zone of consideration" mean that there would be only a single zone for consideration for all the vacancies including those vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or there would be a separate zone of consideration of the reserved vacancies. It is clarified that in the case of promotions by selection from Class III to Class II, within Class II and from Class II to the lowest rung of Class I, there is no separate zone of consideration, for reserved vacancies. The zone in such cases would therefore be the one fixed with reference to the total number of vacancies (inclusive of the reserved vacancies) for which a select list is being drawn. Only those Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates who are within such normal zone of consideration would be considered for promotion against the reserved vacancies. As an illustration, if a selection is being made for 30 vacancies (in promotion to Class II or beyond) and there are 5 reserved vacancies, out of the total of 30, there will be only one zone of consideration for all the 30 vacancies together, i.e. 30×5 or 6 times. There will be no separate zone for the 5 reserved vacancies (of 5×5 or 6 Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe candidates) alone.

2. Ministries/Departments etc. may kindly take note of the above clarification for appropriate action.