

**Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms O.M. No.36011/39/81-
Estt.(SCT),
dated the 30th November, 1981, to all Ministries/Departments, etc.**

Subject :—Reservation for SC/ST candidates in promotion vacancies—Single vacancy arising in a recruitment year.

Attention is invited to this Department O.M. No. 1/9/74-Estt.(SCT), dated 29-4-1975 which stipulates that where only one vacancy occurs in the initial recruitment year and the corresponding roster point happens to be for SC or ST candidate, it should be treated as unreserved and filled accordingly and the reservation carried-forward to subsequent three recruitment years, but in the subsequent year(s) even if there be only one vacancy, it should be treated as 'reserved' against the carried-forward reservation from the initial recruitment year, and a SC/ST candidate, if available, should be appointed in that vacancy, although it may happen to be the only vacancy in that recruitment year(s).

2. A doubt has been raised as to how a single vacancy shall be treated if it falls on a reserved point and is filled by a reserved category candidate according to his own merit or seniority being the senior most in the list as the case may be. It is clarified that if a single vacancy falls at a reserved point for SC/ST and is filled by SC/ST candidate on the basis of his own merit or seniority it need not be treated as unreserved and reservation should not be carried-forward. In these cases, the provisions of orders of 29-4-1975 will not be applicable.

3. Further, if a single vacancy falls at a reserved point for SC/ST and is filled up by a candidate of the other reserved community on the basis of his own merit or seniority as the case may be, the vacancies will be treated as unreserved and treated as if it is filled by a general category candidate, and the vacancy shall also be carried-forward. In these cases, the instructions contained in this Department O.M. dated 29-4-1975, referred to above, shall apply.
