

05 August 2024

*Creamy layer among SCs, STs must be excluded from quota benefits*



### Key Points:

- ❖ The Supreme Court on Thursday said that states must identify the 'creamy layer' within the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) and take them out of reservation.
- ❖ The apex court made the observation in while ruling on the further subclassification within the SCs and STs.
- ❖ A seven-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud held by a 6:1 majority that the sub-classification of SCs and STs by states can be permitted to ensure the grant of quota to more backward castes inside these groups.
- ❖ The Supreme Court has ruled that the 'creamy layer' principle, previously applied only to Other Backward Classes (OBCs) (as highlighted in Indra Sawhney Case), should now also be applied to SCs and STs.
- ❖ 'Creamy layer' refers to a class of persons within reserved categories who are socially and economically

advanced. At present, the concept of 'creamy layer' is applicable only to the reservation for Other Backward Classes.

- ❖ For OBCs, the creamy layer comprises households with annual income in excess of ₹8 lakh a year.
- ❖ In 2018, the Supreme Court, in the judgment in Jarnail Singh & Ors. v Lachhmi Narain Gupta & Ors. had held that the principle of creamy layer, previously applicable to Other Backward Classes (OBCs), should be applied to SC/ST communities as well for reservation in promotions.

Argument in favour of application of creamy layer to SC/ST:

- ❖ Introducing creamy layer and allowing SC/ST candidates to compete in the general category would help thousands to leave the space for the less privileged among them.
- ❖ Once a caste is considered to be backward it will continue to be backward for all other times. The government should review the test and if a class reaches the state of progress where reservation is not necessary it should delete that class from the list of backward criteria.

- ❖ Reservations are nothing but means to prosper the vote banks of politicians.
- ❖ They are hindering the country's growth, development and competency in all aspects.
- ❖ Therefore it must be rationalised. Fair and just reservations to uplift the people with poor conditions of life, those who don't have meals to eat, clothes to wear and no home to live in.
- ❖ The process of reservation should be such that it filters the truly economically deprived individuals and bring them all to justice.

#### Argument against application of creamy layer to SC/ST:

- ❖ It has been clearly stated in Indra Sawhney (1992) case, that any discussion on creamy layer "has no relevance" in the context of SC/STs.
- ❖ Going by the creamy layer ceiling of Rs 8 lakh per annum, even "Group D" functionaries will come under the definition of creamy layer.
- ❖ The SC/STs are given job reservations not because they are poor but because they are excluded.
- ❖ The Constitution made the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as a separate category of subjects to protect them from caste aggression.

#### Jharkhand launches Mukhyamantri Maiyaan Samman Yojana for women



#### Key Points:

- ❖ The Hemant Soren government in Jharkhand has launched the Mukhyamantri Maiyaan Samman Yojana to provide financial assistance to eligible women in the state.
- ❖ Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren will officially launch the scheme on 16 August 2024. The 81-member Jharkhand legislative Assembly will go to poll in November /December 2024, as the tenure of the present assembly will end on 5 January 2025.
- ❖ The scheme is seen as a pre-election sop announced by the Hemant Soren government in the state before the next legislative assembly election

#### About the Mukhyamantri Maiyaan Samman Yojana

- ❖ The Mukhyamantri Maiyaan Samman Yojana was earlier called Jharkhand Behan Beti Swavalamban Protsahan Yojana.

- ❖ The Mukhyamantri Maiyaan Samman Yojana aims to empower the women of the state by making them financially strong.
- ❖ It also aims to improve the level of education, health and nutrition of women by providing them with financial assistance.
- ❖ The state government, in order to ensure the enrollment of the eligible women, will set up special camps in all the panchayats and wards of all the districts from 3-10 August 2024.

#### Women to get Rs 1 0 0 0 per month

- ❖ The Mukhyamantri Maiyaan Samman Yojana is a direct benefit transfer (DBT) scheme in which eligible women beneficiaries receive Rs 1000 per month from the state government directly in their bank accounts.
- ❖ Chief Minister Hemant Soren and State Women and Child Development Minister Baby Devi will transfer the first instalment to the beneficiary's account on 16 August 2024.
- ❖ Women in the age group of 21-50 years are eligible for the scheme.
- ❖ The beneficiary's annual income shall be less than Rs 8 lakhs.
- ❖ An estimated 48 lakh women are estimated to be eligible for the scheme.

#### ODIA JOURNALISM DAY



ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର, ଓଡ଼ିଶା: ପ୍ରଥମ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ସମ୍ବାଦପତ୍ର 'ସଦା' ଓ ଅନ୍ୟ ୧୮୬୭ ଚାରିଶହେ ପ୍ରଥମ କରି ପ୍ରକାଶିତ ହୋଇଥିଲା ।  
 ଗୌରାଶଙ୍କର ରାୟ ଏହାର ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠାତା ଓ ପ୍ରଥମ ସମ୍ପାଦକ ହେଲେ । ଏହା ପ୍ରଥମେ ସାପ୍ତାହିକ ଆକାରରେ ପ୍ରକାଶିତ ହୋଇଥିଲେ ମଧ୍ୟ ପରେ ଏହା ଦୈନିକ ହୋଇଥିଲା । ଗୌରାଶଙ୍କର ରାୟ ଏବଂ ତାଙ୍କର ପତ୍ନୀ ସହଯୋଗୀ ବିଚିତ୍ରାଙ୍କ ଦ୍ୱାରା ଉଦ୍‌ଘାଟନ କରାଯାଇଥିବା ପ୍ରତିଷ୍ଠିତ 'କଟକ ପୁସ୍ତକ କମିଟି'ରୁ ଏହି ସମ୍ବାଦପତ୍ର ପ୍ରକାଶ ପାଇଥିଲା ।  
 ଉତ୍କଳ ଚାର୍ଯ୍ୟ ଚନ୍ଦ୍ରଶେଖର ପାଣିଗ୍ରାହୀ, ଦୈନିକ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ରାଜନୈତିକ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରେ ନୂତନ ବିଭବଣିତ ଦେବାରେ ସମାଜ ହୋଇଥିଲା ଏବଂ ଓଡ଼ିଆମାନଙ୍କ ସ୍ୱାର୍ଥରକ୍ଷା ପାଇଁ ସରକାରଙ୍କ ପାଖରେ ଦୃଢ଼ ଦାବି ଉପସ୍ଥାପିତ କରିବାରେ ଅଗ୍ରଣି ଭୂମିକା ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଥିଲା ।  
 ଗୌରାଶଙ୍କର ରାୟ ନିଜ ଅଧିନ ସମୟ ପର୍ଯ୍ୟନ୍ତ ଉତ୍କଳ ଚାର୍ଯ୍ୟର ସମ୍ପାଦନା କରିଆସୁଥିଲେ । ଏବେ ଏହା ଉତ୍କଳ ଚାର୍ଯ୍ୟ/ବାଲକବିହାର ପରି ଗୁଣ୍ୟ ପୁଅ ବିରୋଧରେ ମଧ୍ୟ ସ୍ୱର ଉତ୍ତୋଳନ କରିଥିଲା । ଏହାର ସମାପ୍ତି ଓଡ଼ିଶାରେ ସମ୍ବାଦପତ୍ର ପ୍ରକାଶନର ମୂଳଦୁଆ ପକାଇଥିଲା ।

#### Indian Organ Donation Day



#### Key Points:

- ❖ The 14th Indian Organ Donation Day is being observed across the country on 3 August 2024.
- ❖ The Indian Organ Donation Day is observed to increase awareness about organ donation amongst the people.
- ❖ It also commemorates the contributions made to society by deceased donors and their families.
- ❖ The Indian Organ Donation Day also aims to clear myths and misconceptions regarding organ donation and motivate and encourage people to donate their organs and tissues after death.

#### Background to the Indian Donation Day

- ❖ The Indian Organ Donation Day has been observed since 2010 in the country. Earlier, the Indian Organ

Donation Day used to be observed every year on 27 November.

- ❖ In 2022, the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation decided to observe the Indian Organ Donation Day on 3 August every year.
- ❖ Thus, from 2023 onwards, the Indian Organ Donation Day is observed on 3rd August.
- ❖ This day has been chosen because on 3 August 1994 the first successful deceased donor heart transplant was conducted in India. A brain stem dead person's heart was donated by a family member, which saved the life of another person.
- ❖ Thus, the day encourages people to pledge to donate their organs after death.

#### Organ Donation Month in India

- ❖ The National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization under the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has declared July as the month of organ donation in the country.

- ❖ July month has been chosen because, on 8th July 1994, the Transplantation of Human Organs Act 1994 was enacted in India.
- ❖ This act regulates the removal, storage, and transplantation of human organs for therapeutic purposes and prevents commercial dealings in human organs and tissues.
- ❖ World Organ Donation Day Many countries have their own Organ Donation Day. In general, World Organ Donation Day is observed on 13 August in many parts of the world to raise awareness of Organ Donation.



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