

The Hindu

Rationalise job reservation for BCs : PSC chairman

Chairman of the Kerala Public Service Commission (PSC) K.S. Radhakrishnan has called for rationalising the practice of job reservation for backward communities (BCs) to make it possible for the State to provide priority to first generation government job-seekers among them.

Dr. Radhakrishnan illustrated the point by citing his own example. He was the first generation government job-seeker in his family. His father was a fisherman. Dr. Radhakrishnan said that his children, considering their educational opportunities and exposure, would be better placed than he himself was to get government jobs.

As he highlighted his own experience to underline the point, he spoke specifically about communities that enjoy substantial quantum of job reservation when calling for a re-look at the policy.

Providing some consideration to the first generation government job-seekers among these communities “would serve the cause of social justice better,” he said at a press conference here on Wednesday.

The press conference was convened to mark his five years in office.

He said he was able to bring about qualitative changes in the functioning of the PSC over the last five years. A statement said that some of the “primitive” practices were reformed and changes included for speedier declaration of results of PSC examinations and improvement of facilities for people taking the tests.

Tribal watchmen

The PSC chairman also recalled how 609 posts of tribal watchmen were filled on a war-footing after the usual practices were put aside to appoint forest-dwelling tribesmen to the post. Interviews were conducted over a period of two weeks in forest areas in the State by PSC members to fill these vacancies, he said. The appointments were made from nearly 10,000 applications.

The fourth online examination centre — for Malabar region, will be commissioned before Onam in Kozhikode.