

The Hindu

Notification on SBC reservation to be issued again in Rajasthan

Facing flak over its failure to implement five per cent reservation for Special Backward Classes (SBCs), the Bharatiya Janata Party government in Rajasthan has launched a new exercise to assess the position and ensure that the quota and other promises made to Gujjars and other SBCs are fulfilled without delay.

A Ministerial sub-committee on reservation for SBCs here over the week-end asked for issuing the notification once again with “clear guidelines” for the quota for SBCs, including Gujjars, in the government jobs and educational institutions.

At a meeting with Gujjar supremo Kirori Singh Bainsla and other leaders of the community, the sub-committee members said the State government was honest in its intention to provide reservation to Gujjars and others listed in the SBCs. Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Arun Chaturvedi said the Centre would be requested to include the SBC quota in Ninth Schedule of the Constitution to make it immune from judicial review.

Mr. Chaturvedi said all departments were implementing the decisions of the sub-committee. The construction of six of the nine Deonarain residential schools, for which a promise was made to Gujjars, has been completed.

Besides, the sanctioned primary health centres, boys' hostels and boundary walls of girls' hostels would be constructed and residential schools would be started by this year-end. In addition to Mr. Chaturvedi, Health Minister Rajendra Rathore and Food and Civil Supplies Minister Hem Singh Bhadana interacted with the Gujjar leaders.

Col. Bainsla laid emphasis on getting the SBC children admitted to quality schools under the Deonarain Gurukul Yojana. Gujjar leaders Himmat Singh, Shailendra Singh and Roop Singh also represented SBCs in the meeting