

# 1st in India: Telangana effects quota within quota for SCs

TNN | Apr 15, 2025, 01.33 AM IST

 1st in India: Telangana effects quota within quota for SCs

HYDERABAD: Telangana became the first state Monday to implement sub-categorisation of Scheduled Caste reservation by classifying 59 sub-castes into three groups, timing the move with Dr Ambedkar's 135th birth anniversary. The cabinet sub-committee on SC categorisation handed to CM Revanth Reddy the first copy of gazette notification along with the set of rules governing implementation of Telangana SC (Rationalisation of Reservations) Act, 2025.

Telangana assembly had passed the SC sub-categorisation Bill on March 18, based on a seven-judge SC bench's Aug 1, 2024, verdict upholding the validity of sub-classifications within SC and ST categories.

According to the gazette notification, 1% reservation in education and employment has been provided to SCs in Group I (15 sub-castes); 9% to Group II (18 sub-castes); and 5% to Group III (26 sub-castes).

"Congress govt has done what no other party could. All parties extended verbal support for SC categorisation, but none took it to implementation. We have done it legally, inclusively, and with full preparedness," said minister N Uttam Reddy, who chaired the cabinet sub-committee.

He mentioned that the state govt issued four general orders to legally fortify its action.

Sub-committee deputy chief Damodar Rajanarasimha stressed the govt's commitment to social justice, saying he and the chairperson would meet chief secretary A Santhi Kumari and senior officials Tuesday to discuss vacancies in all govt departments. Both assured the SC community that the quota would be raised in line with their increased population after 2026 census. The current sub-categorisation is based on 2011 census.

"The group quotas include 33% reservation for women. If vacancies are not filled due to unavailability of SC candidates, they will not be given to candidates from other community but carried forward. Efforts will be made to fill all vacancies at the earliest. The categorisation will not apply to job notifications issued by state and central govts before the Act came into force. In fact, the Congress govt has not issued any job notification after Aug 1, 2024," Uttam Reddy said.

"On the auspicious day of birth anniversary of Dr Ambedkar, Telangana govt paid best tributes by bringing into force a great Act of Social Justice, addressing a demand of classification of SC sub-castes (sic)," Revanth wrote on X.