

**PRESS RELEASE**

**Text of the D.O. letter dated 8.7.2020 of Thiru. Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, addressed to Shri. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India**

The Government of India had reserved 27% of the vacancies in civil posts and services falling under its purview for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs) to be filled through direct recruitment, subject to the condition that the aforesaid reservation shall not be applied to persons/sections specified as creamy layer from amongst OBCs.

There are six criteria for assessing the persons to be excluded as creamy layer within OBCs. One of the creamy layer criteria specifies income limit for exclusion from OBCs. The income limit of the parents for the wards to whom OBC status can be claimed, was fixed at Rs.1 lakh per annum initially in the year 1993. Subsequently, the income limit was revised Rs.8 lakh with effect from 1.9.2017.

**It is reported in the media that Government of India is contemplating revision of the criteria for creamy layer among OBCs by including salary and agricultural income. These are currently excluded from the calculation of income for the purpose of determining the creamy layer for OBCs, to grant reservation and welfare measures.**

If salary and agricultural income of the parents are considered to be part of the overall income of the parents, this would disallow OBC status to several deserving OBCs from availing reservation in admissions to jobs, as well as welfare schemes under the Central government.

**I request you Sir to continue the existing policy of determining the creamy layer by excluding agricultural and salary income.**

I would also like to suggest that the Government of India may consider providing OBC reservations by following the Tamil Nadu model, which would benefit the Backward Classes across the country equitably and render complete social justice.

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**Issued by: Director of Information and Public Relations, Chennai-9.**