

Special Provision for Certain Classes

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Special Provision for Certain Classes. We've distilled years of previous exam questions (PYQs) into one powerful, concise resource. Everything you need to know, nothing you don't.

- **PYQs, Decoded:** All key concepts from past exams, organized and simplified.
- **Revise in Record Time:** Short, precise, and designed for last-minute review.
- **Focus on What Matters:** Master high-probability topics and boost your confidence.

Constitutional Provisions

Relevant Parts and Articles of the Constitution

- **Part XVI (Articles 330-342):** Deals with special provisions for certain classes like Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), and Anglo-Indians.
- **Article 243(D):** Provides for reservation of seats for SCs and STs in Panchayats.
- **Article 330:** Provides for reservation of seats for SCs and STs in the Lok Sabha.
- **Article 331:** Provides for the nomination of members from the Anglo-Indian community to the Lok Sabha if not adequately represented.
- **Article 333:** Provides for the nomination of members from the Anglo-Indian community to State Legislative Assemblies if not adequately represented.
- **Article 334:** Originally set a time limit for the provisions of reservation and nomination, which has been periodically extended.

Definition and Listing of SCs/STs

- The **President** issues the official lists of SCs and STs for each state, after consulting the Governor.
- A tribe can be declared as a Scheduled Tribe for **only a part of a State**.
- The **Scheduled Tribe status is religiously neutral**; it is not restricted to followers of any particular religion.
- The authority to specify which castes shall be deemed as Scheduled Castes rests with the **President**.
- As of a 2007 amendment, the number of castes in the list of Scheduled Castes is **1,206**.
- The definition of the term '**Minority**' is **not given** in the Constitution of India.

Political Representation

- There is **no reservation for any caste** in the **Rajya Sabha** (Upper House of Parliament).



Constitutional and Statutory Bodies

Constitutional Bodies

- **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)**: A constitutional body established under **Article 338-A**.
- **Separate Scheduled Tribe Commission**: Refers to the NCST, established under **Article 338-A**.

Statutory Bodies (Established by an Act of Parliament)

- The **Minority Commission** (National Commission for Minorities) is **not a constitutional body**; it is a statutory body.
- The **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** is a statutory body.

Important Legislations and Acts

Sub-topic: The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989

- **Scope of Offender:** Offences under this Act can **only be committed by a person who is not a member of an SC or ST.**
- **Key Definitions:**
 - **"Victim"** is defined under **Section 2(ec).**
 - **"Dependent"** is defined under **Section 2(bb).**
 - **"Economic boycott"** is defined under **Section 2(bc).**
- **Judicial Process:**
 - Provides for the establishment of **"Exclusive Special Courts"** to try offences under this Act, as defined under **Section 14.**
- **Investigation:**
 - An **investigation officer must submit his report within 30 days** for offenses committed.
- **Specific Offence:**
 - A non-SC/ST person causing harm to an SC/ST person on the allegation of witchcraft is punishable with **imprisonment for a term not less than six months but which may extend to five years and with a fine.**

Sub-topic: The Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955

- The **power of a State Government to impose a collective fine** is provided under **Section 14A.**

Sub-topic: Acts Related to Other Groups

- The **National Commission for Minorities Act** was passed in **1993.**
- The **National Commission for Backward Classes Act** was passed in **1993.**
- The **Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act** was passed in **1995.**

- The **Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act** was passed in **1986**.

Administration and Committees

Administrative Rules

- Under the **Scheduled Tribes Rules, 1995**, the provision for '**Material for Annual Report**' is given in **Section 24**.

Committees

- The **Hashim Committee** was set up for the identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in **Urban Areas**.

Miscellaneous Significant Facts

Judiciary and Laws

- The Supreme Court judgment regarding homosexuality is related to **Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)**, which was decriminalized.

Powers of Local Bodies

- **Zila Panchayats in Scheduled Areas** have powers including:
 - Planning for minor water bodies.
 - Controlling institutions in all social sectors.
 - Controlling tribal sub-plans.
 - Exercising other functions conferred by the State Government.

Know More About Special Provision for a Certain Classes:

- [Special Provision for Certain Classes – Old Year Questions](#)
- [Special Provision for Certain Classes One Liner Questions & Answers](#)