

TITLE: Indra Sawhney v. Union of India (1989)

SITE

Education desk note ? Advocate Adesh Kumar ? <https://advadeshkumar.com/>

CITATION

AIR 1993 SC 477 | Supreme Court of India | 1989

CASE

Indra Sawhney v. Union of India

FACTS

Challenge to implementation of Mandal Commission recommendations for OBC reservations in Central services.

LEGAL ISSUES

Validity and limits of OBC reservations in public employment after the Mandal Commission.

LAW / PROVISIONS

Articles 16(4), 14, 15; creamy layer; 50% ceiling principles.

HOLDING

Upheld OBC reservations subject to creamy-layer exclusion and the general 50% ceiling (with limited exceptional discourse); shaped reservation jurisprudence for decades.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. Reservation is a tool of equalisation ? not an unlimited quota machine.
2. Creamy layer and ceiling doctrines are core teaching points.

SIGNIFICANCE

Leading reservations judgment in public employment.

PRIMARY SOURCE

<https://indiankanoon.org/doc/1363234/>

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