GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 4TH & 5TH FLOOR, DJ 4, SECTOR II, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA
Website: www.anagrasarkalyan.gov.in

Dated: 29.05.2026

No. 1037 (64)/Secy-BCW/MR-33/2025 (Pt. V)

From: Sri. Sanjay Bansal, IAS
Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal

To: - 1-64) The Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary,
---------- Department (All)

Sub: Applicability of OBC Reservation and Non-Creamy Layer (NCL) status in admission and recruitment processes - reg.

Sir / Madam,

It has been observed that various admission authorities and recruiting agencies have, from time to time, sought clarification from this Department regarding eligibility of a candidate under OBC category based on his/her Non-Creamy Layer (NCL) status at the time of admission in higher education or recruitment.

In this regard, it is clarified that mere possession of paternal OBC certificate does not automatically confer entitlement to OBC reservation benefits. Reservation under the OBC category is admissible only to candidates belonging to the Non-Creamy Layer and possessing a valid OBC-NCL certificate issued by the competent authority.

Accordingly, when a candidate fails to produce a valid OBC-NCL certificate within the prescribed crucial date, such candidate shall not be eligible for OBC reservation benefits and shall be treated as belonging to the Unreserved (General) category for admission in higher education, selection, and appointment under the State Government. In such case, the candidate may be allowed /encouraged to apply under the Unreserved (General) category for admission or selection process at the time of application process to avoid confusion at later stage of admission/recruitment.

Determination of Creamy Layer status shall be governed by the extant rules, notifications, and guidelines issued by the respective Government.

This is for your kind information and taking necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal
29/05