

Arjun appoints PS Krishnan as adviser

NEW DELHI: With the reservation issue entangled in controversies, HRD Minister Arjun Singh has appointed a retired bureaucrat and an expert on the subject to advise him on the 27 per cent reservation for OBCs in elite educational institutions.

PS Krishnan, a 1956 batch IAS officer who headed the Welfare Ministry at the time when Prime Minister VP Singh had announced in 1990 implementation of 27 per cent job reservation in government for OBCs, has been appointed as Honorary Adviser to the Minister to specifically advise on the reservation issue.

"My only condition to the government was take my advice and give a serious thought to it. Do not fix any price on it," said Krishnan, who had in 1979 signed the order appointing BP Mandal Commission which had recommended 27 per cent job reservation for OBCs in government. That had formed the basis for VP Singh's government's decision.

Claiming that nobody knew the issue better than him, he said that some critics to the OBC reservation in educational institutions write without knowing the "a, b, c of the subject and without reading the Mandal Commission recommendations".

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