

# Population-based caste quota mooted

Special Correspondent – The Hindu Wednesday, Jun 28, 2006

## *Protests by vested interests: Ramadoss*

? Says his party was also fighting for quota in judiciary and media

? PMK to organise a seminar on `social justice to OBCs' in Delhi

Lucknow: Pattali Makkal Katchi founder-president P. Ramadoss said here on Tuesday that his party favoured reservation according to the population of each caste and community. Dr. Ramadoss said the quota for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be increased as their population had gone up.

Addressing a press conference, the PMK president said 27 per cent reservation for the Other Backward Classes in higher educational institutions of the Central Government should be implemented soon. Dr. Ramadoss, who was on a day's visit here, said he had embarked on a mission to unite the forces of social justice when the Central Government was contemplating reservation for OBCs in higher educational institutions.

Stating that the recent protests against the Centre's move on OBC reservation were instigated by vested interests, Dr. Ramadoss said these forces would be exposed when the Bill was moved in the monsoon session of Parliament. The PMK president said he had met Human Resources Minister Arjun Singh and the former Prime Minister, V.P. Singh, on Monday.

### **Reservation in judiciary**

He said his party was also fighting for reservation in the judiciary and the media. On reservation in the judiciary, he said there were around 30 Supreme Court judges but none belonged to the OBCs. Dr. Ramadoss said that of 70 judges in the Allahabad High Court, only two or three were from the OBCs.

Playing down the face-off between the HRD Minister and the Social Justice Minister, Meira Kumar, Dr. Ramadoss said Mr. Singh was very firm on bringing the reservation Bill in the monsoon session.

Dr. Ramadoss said the PMK would organise a national seminar on `social justice to OBCs' in New Delhi on July 2. Mr. V.P. Singh will inaugurate it.

He said Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav was among the leaders invited to the seminar.

<http://www.thehindu.com/2006/06/28/stories/2006062808931200.htm>