

Triple test survey for Other Backward Classes in UP

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In news– After the Allahabad High Court ordered the Uttar Pradesh government to hold urban local body elections without reservation for OBCs because the ‘**triple test**’ requirement for the quota had not been fulfilled, the state Wednesday set up a commission for this purpose.

What is Triple test survey?

- **The triple test requires the government to complete three tasks for finalisation of reservation to OBCs in the local bodies. These include:**
 - To set up **a dedicated commission** to conduct a rigorous empirical inquiry into the nature and implications of the backwardness in local bodies;
 - To **specify the proportion of reservation required in local bodies** in light of recommendations of the commission, so as not to fall foul of overbreadth;
 - To ensure **reservation** for SCs/STs/OBCs taken together does **not exceed an aggregate of 50 per cent of the total seats.**
- **These triple test/conditions were outlined by the Supreme Court in the case of Vikas Kishanrao Gawali vs. State of Maharashtra** and others, decided on March 4, 2021.
- **This is the first time that the triple test exercise will be carried out in Uttar Pradesh.**

Note:

- The formula used for the OBC reservation in the 2022 local bodies was the same followed in the polls held in 1995, 2000, 2006, 2012 and 2017.
- The elections were held on the basis of the estimates

collected through the rapid surveys of the OBC families.

- Even the panchayat elections were based on the rapid surveys conducted in May 2015. And the same yardstick was followed in the 2021 rural body elections.
- The arrangement for reservation of backward classes in local bodies was made in the Uttar Pradesh Municipality Act, 1916, in 1994.