Private E-Sevai Center
CSC Center
STAR RAINBOW SERVICES
VADAPALANI
8144337349

HELLO MADRAS
hellomadrasdaily@gmail.com
HELLO MIRROR MADRAS
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OBC associations stage protest, to boycott Census 2027 until Government changes caste count method

CHENNAI – 29 Nov, 2026 Other Backward Classes associations across the country on Saturday (November 28, 2026) resolved to boycott the ongoing Census 2027 over the government's decision to use the open-column method for caste enumeration and the absence of a specific OBC column in the forms for the Population Enumeration phase.

Thousands of people demonstrated at New Delhi's Ramlila Maidan on Saturday, following a protest call by the All India Caste Census Coordination Committee (AICCCC), a coalition of various OBC associations in India.

The AICCC has been organising opposition to the Union government's open-column caste enumeration method, which the committee has said was designed to create "data chaos", like the 2011 Socio-Economic Caste Census exercise.

In a declaration adopted on Saturday, the AICCCC said all associated organisations had



decided to boycott the ongoing Census exercise until the Census forms include a specific OBC column and a drop-down box listing all castes (SC/ST/OBC/General).

The coalition of OBC groups also called for a way to specifically enumerate nomadic and denotified tribes, many of which are already classified as OBCs, SCs, or STs.