

No review of Maratha quota judgment

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The Supreme Court has refused to review its judgment holding the Maratha reservation law unconstitutional.

The court had also held, in a majority view, that the Centre alone was empowered to identify Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) to include them in the Central List for claiming reservation benefits.

“The various grounds taken in the review petition have already been dealt with in the main judgment. We do not find any sufficient ground to entertain this review petition,” a five-judge Bench led by Justice Ashok Bhushan said on Thursday.

In May, the Bench had unanimously declared the Maharashtra State law, which provides reservation benefits to the Maratha community, taking the quota limit in the State in excess of 50%, as unconstitutional.

The court had also refused to revisit its 1992 Indra Sawhney verdict that fixed the ceiling limit for reservation at 50%. However, the majority view authored by Justice S. Ravindra Bhat had held a “different” opinion about the validity of the 102nd Constitutional Amendment.

Justice Bhat had held that the Centre alone was empowered to identify SEBC for the Central List.