No.36035/4/2003-Estt(Res)
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
(Department of Personnel & Training)

New Delhi, Dated the 8th July, 2003

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Appointment of Persons with Disabilities against unreserved vacancies.

The undersigned is directed to say that there is a provision of reservation of vacancies for persons suffering from (i) blindness or low vision; (ii) hearing impairment; and (iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy in case of direct recruitment to identified group A, B, C & D posts and also in case of promotion when promotions are made within group D, from group D to group C and within group C posts. Some references have been received in this Department seeking clarification whether persons with disabilities can be considered for appointment against a vacancy which is not reserved for them.

2. Vacancies reserved for any category need to be filled by persons belonging to that category and such vacancies are not open to others. On the other hand unreserved vacancies are open to all and reserved category candidates cannot be denied the right to compete for appointment against such vacancies, provided they are otherwise eligible. In other words, while vacancies reserved for any specific category are meant for persons of that category only, unreserved vacancies are open to all, including the reserved category candidates. It means that a person with disability can be appointed against an unreserved vacancy, provided the post is identified suitable for the persons with disabilities of the relevant category.

3. All Ministries / Department etc. are requested to bring it to the notice of all offices / bodies / establishments etc. under their control.

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India.

To

1. All Ministries / Departments of Govt. of India
2. Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division), New Delhi
3. Department of Economic Affairs (Insurances Division), New Delhi
4. Department of Public Enterprises, New Delhi
5. Railway Board
6. Union Public Service Commission / Supreme Court of India / Election Commission / Lok Sabha Secretariat / Rajya Sabha Secretariat / Cabinet Secretariat / Central Vigilance Commission / President’s Secretariat / Prime Minister’s Office / Planning Commission
7. Staff Selection Commission, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi.