

The Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995

Definitions of Disabilities:

- (i) (a) Blindness: “Blindness” refers to a condition where a person suffers from any of the following conditions, namely:-
 - (i) total absence of sight; or
 - (ii) visual acuity not exceeding 6/60 or 20/200 (snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses; or
 - (iii) limitation of the field of vision subtending an angle of 20 degree or worse;
- (b) Low Vision: “Person with low vision” means a person with impairment of visual functioning even after treatment or standard refractive correction but who uses or is potentially capable of using vision for the planning or execution of a task with appropriate assistive device.
- (ii) Hearing Impairment: “Hearing Impairment” means loss of sixty decibels or more in the better ear in the conversational range of frequencies.
- (ii) (a) Locomotors disability: “Locomotors disability” means disability of the bones, joints or muscles leading to substantial restriction of the movement of the limbs or any form of cerebral palsy.
- (b) Cerebral Palsy: “Cerebral Palsy” means a group of non – progressive conditions of a person characterized by abnormal motor control posture resulting from brain insult or injuries occurring in the pre-natal, peri-natal or infant period of development.
- (c) All the cases of orthopaedically handicapped persons would be covered under the category of “locomotors disability or cerebral palsy.”

Degree of Disability for reservation: Only such persons would be eligible for reservation in services / posts who suffer from not less than 40 per cent of relevant disability. A person who wants to avail of benefit of reservation would have to submit a Disability Certificate issued by a competent authority.