



Personnel and Administrative
Reforms (S) Department
Secretariat, Chennai - 9.

Letter No.69193/S/2005-7, Dated 2.11.2006.

From

Thiru.T.S.Sridhar, I.A.S.,
Special Commissioner and Secretary to Government.

To

All Secretaries to Government,
All Heads of Departments,
All District Collectors/District Judges/District Magistrates
Secretary, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Secretariat, Chennai-9
Secretary, Teachers Recruitment Board, Chennai-6
Secretary, Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission, Chennai-2.
Chairman, Uniformed Services Recruitment Board, Chennai-2.

Sir,

Sub: Public Services - Welfare of Physically handicapped -
Reservation of appointment in Public Services-
Definition of 'Blind' - Clarification - Issued.

- Ref 1 G.O.Ms.No.99, Personnel and Administrative
Reforms (Per.S) Department, dated. 26.2.88
2 Government Letter No.69193/S/2005-1,P & AR(S)
Dept, dated. 27.12.2005
3 From the Director and Superintendent Incharge,
Regional Institute of Ophthalmology and
Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Chennai-8,
Letter No.11/MB/2006, dated.22.2.2006.

In the Government Order first cited, Government have issued orders reserving 3% of the vacancies in all State Public Services / Educational Institutions for the following categories of physically handicapped persons :-

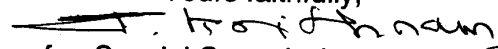
Sl.No.	Category of handicapped	% of Reservation
1.	Blind	1%
2.	Deaf	1%
3.	Orthopaedically handicapped	1%

2. It has been brought to the notice of the Government that the definition for the term 'Blind' given in the Government Order cited is more technical, and difficult to understand, while it is in descriptive terms in the cases of 'Deaf' and the 'Orthopaedically handicapped'. The appointing authorities who are the implementing officials of the Government policy for the welfare of physically handicapped are mostly non-medical officers and they are not aware of the exact implications of the said definition 'Blind'.

3. Hence, I am directed to furnish a descriptive definition as follows for the category of 'Blind', so as to enable the appointing authorities to understand and implement the orders issued in the Government Order cited.

<u>Definition given in rule</u>	<u>Descriptive version</u>
a) Total absence of vision	-
b) Visual Acuity not exceeding 6/60 or 20/200 (Snellen) in the better eye with correcting lens.	A legally blind person would have to stand 6 metres (20 feet) from an object to see it with the same degree of clarity, as a normally sighted person would see from 60 metres (200 feet).
c) Limitation of the field of vision subtending an Angle of 20 or worse	The person cannot see the whole scene as a normally sighted person can. This is measured in degrees. Normal sighted persons have a visual field of 160 to 170.

Yours faithfully,


for Special Commissioner and Secretary to Government 15.12.06
KS

Copy to :Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme (SW4) Department, Chennai-9.
All Sections in Personnel and Administrative Reforms Department, Chennai-9.