

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2850
ANSWERED ON 12/08/2026

RESERVATION FOR PWDS IN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

2850. Shri Haris Beeran:

Will the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment
be pleased to state:

- (a): whether the reservation framework under Section 34 of the RPwD Act, 2016 provides for any graded or tiered preference among candidates certified between 40 per cent and 100 per cent disability within the same reserved category, particularly for blindness and hearing impairment;
- (b): whether any criteria exist to categorise physical disability and sensory impairment, such as blindness, on the basis of comparative degree of vulnerability;
- (c): whether Government maintains data on the distribution of selected candidates by percentage-band of disability within each reserved category and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d): whether any proposal to introduce severity-based preference within the benchmark disability band is under consideration?

ANSWER

The Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment
(SHRI B L VERMA)

(a) to (c): Section 34 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 provides for reservation of not less than four per cent of the total number of vacancies in direct recruitment in Government establishments for persons with benchmark disabilities. The Act does not prescribe any graded or tiered preference among persons with benchmark disabilities within the same reserved category, nor does it provide for categorisation of benchmark disabilities on the basis of comparative degree of vulnerability for the purpose of reservation in Government employment. Further, there is no record available of the distribution of selected candidates by percentage-band of disability.

(d): At present, no proposal to introduce severity-based preference within the benchmark disability band is under consideration.
