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SUPREME COURT

Merit Prevails

Disabled Candidates From Reserved Categories Can Claim 'Open' PwD Posts, Rules Supreme Court ?

Sheikh Rayees • April 8, 2026

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a ruling that sharpens the understanding of horizontal reservations, the Supreme Court of India held that a post reserved horizontally for persons with disabilities within the unreserved category cannot be restricted only to general-category applicants. Instead, any candidate — including those from SC, ST, or OBC backgrounds — may compete, provided they share the disability qualification and secure higher merit.

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FULL STORY