

## Employment Exchanges in service of the Persons With Disabilities

- A. As per provision of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation) Act, 1995 every appointing authority in any establishments under the Public Sector shall fill up not less than three percent of vacancies from the persons with disabilities of which one percent each shall be reserved for persons suffering from:
- Blindness or low vision
  - Hearing impairment
  - Locomotor disability or Cerebral Palsy

### **The Employment Exchanges of West Bengal register these three types of Physically Challenged persons only.**

- B. As per section 40 of the PWD Act, 1995 the appropriate governments and local authorities shall reserve not less than 3% in all poverty alleviation schemes for the benefit of persons with disabilities. Such persons are also entitled for relaxation of upper age limit by ten years. In West Bengal, the maximum age limit for the persons with disability is forty-five years
- C. There is a Special Employment Exchange for the Physically Handicapped Persons (SEEPH), operating under the Directorate of Employment, which functions from the building of Sub Regional Employment Exchange North Kolkata at 6, B.T.Road, Kolkata – 700002. The SEEPH, Kolkata caters to the needs of the disabled persons, residing the Kolkata Municipal Corporation area only. It performs the registration, renewal, submission and other normal activities of an Employment Exchange in respect of the physically challenged candidates residing under the jurisdiction of Kolkata Municipal Corporation. Apart from its normal activities, the Special Employment Exchange for Physically Handicapped (SEEPH) performs the activity of maintaining Liaisons with the Non-Government Organisation (NGO) working in the field of training and rehabilitation of physically challenged persons. The SEEPH has also maintained regular contact with Vocational Rehabilitation Center and motivated the candidates to join the training programmes organized by VRC.
- D. In the districts the names of the disabled persons are registered and provided assistance for employment/self-employment from the local Employment Exchanges. Apart from the SEEPH Kolkata four cells for the Physically Handicapped persons at SREE Barrackpore, SREE Howrah, DEE Purulia and DEE Kharagpur have also being functioning. The total number of disabled persons registered with the Employment Exchanges is 83,361 as on 31.12.2006