



SC Strikes Down NMC Rule

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In *Anmol vs Union of India Case, 2024*, the [Supreme Court \(SC\)](#) ruled [National Medical Commission's \(NMC\)](#) guideline requiring candidates with disabilities to have “**both hands intact with intact sensations and sufficient strength**” for MBBS admission as arbitrary, discriminatory, and unconstitutional.

- This requirement was held to be **antithetical** to the [Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(RPwD\) Act, 2016, Article 41](#) of the Constitution and [United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities \(UNCRPD\)](#).
 - **Article 41** secures the right to work, to education, and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement.
- The SC ruled that the **functional assessment** of a candidate's abilities should take **precedence over rigid eligibility criteria**.
- The SC held that NMC's **Assessment Board** failed to meet the standards set in **two landmark judgments**:
 - **Omkar Ramchandra Gond Case, 2024**: It ruled that mere disability quantification is insufficient, **functional ability** must be **assessed**.
 - **Om Rathod vs Director General of Health Services Case, 2024**: It emphasized **opportunities for PwD candidates**, prioritizing **functional competency** over physical attributes.
- The SC urged NMC to **revise disability admission guidelines** in line with the Constitution, RPwD Act, UNCRPD, and SC judgments.

Read More: [Enhancing Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities](#)

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