

Madras HC Questions TN on Transgender Job Quota

The Madras High Court granted time till August 4, 2026, for the Tamil Nadu government to clarify its stance on providing horizontal reservation for transgender persons in civil services.

Horizontal reservation is a special category reservation (e.g., for women, persons with disabilities, or transgender persons) that cuts across the vertical reservation categories (SC, ST, OBC, General) in government jobs and education.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- The Madras High Court granted time until **August 4, 2026**, for the **Tamil Nadu government** to clarify its position on **horizontal reservation** for **transgender candidates**.
- The court specifically questioned whether the state intends to provide **one or two per cent horizontal reservation** in **all civil services** and **government jobs**.
- The order was issued by a **Second Division Bench** comprising **Justices S.M. Subramaniam** and **N. Senthilkumar**.
- The **High Court's** directive was given on **Wednesday, July 15, 2026**.

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

The **Supreme Court** in the landmark **NALSA v. Union of India (2014)** judgment recognized **transgender persons** as the '**third gender**' and affirmed their fundamental rights.

Articles **15(4)** and **16(4)** of the **Indian Constitution** enable the State to make special provisions and **reservations** for socially and educationally backward classes.

Tamil Nadu established the **first State Transgender Welfare Board** in **India** in **2008**, under the chairmanship of the **Minister for Social Welfare**.

Horizontal reservation applies across various **vertical reservation** categories (e.g., SC, ST, OBC, General) for specific groups like **women**, PwD, or **transgender persons**.

The **Madras High Court**, one of the **three original High Courts** in India, was established in **1862**.

Article 226 of the **Indian Constitution** empowers **High Courts** to issue **writs** for the enforcement of fundamental rights and other legal rights.

The **Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission (TNPSC)** is a **constitutional body** established under **Article 315** for recruitment to state civil services.

REVISION FLASHCARD

Madras High Court seeks TN govt's stand on horizontal reservation for transgender persons by August 4, 2026.

Syllabus Relevance: High

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