Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms O.M. No.36011/9/76-Estt.(SCT), dated the 7th March, 1978, to all Ministries/Departments etc.

Subject:—Relaxation of age limit for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other categories of persons—Provision in the Recruitment Rules.

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Department's O.M. No. 36011/9/76-Estt. (SCT), dated 14-7-1976 in which Ministries/Departments etc were asked to review the Recruitment Rules in respect of posts under them so as to incorporate therein the necessary proviso relating to relaxation of age limit in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other special categories of persons wherever it had not already been done. Some Ministries/Departments had pointed out that in view of the Saving Clause relating to reservations and other concessions for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other special categories of persons required to be included in the recruitment rules for all posts/services falling within the purview of reservation orders, in accordance with the instructions issued in O.M. No. 8/12/71-Estt. (SCT), dated 21-9-71, it might not be necessary to have a separate proviso relating to relaxation of age limit for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes etc. in the recruitment rules. The matter has been considered and it has now been decided in modification of the instructions contained in this Department's O.M. No. 36011/9/76-Estt. (SCT), dated 14-7-1976 that the Saving Clause referred to above as included in the Recruitment Rules would be sufficient and that a separate proviso relating to relaxation of age limit need not be incorporated. However, the existing Saving clause prescribed in this Department's O.M. No. 8/12/71-Estts. (SCT), dated 21-9-71 may be amplified as follows adding the words 'relaxation of age limit' therein:—

"Saving.—Nothing in these rules shall affect reservations, relaxation of age limit and other concessions required to be provided for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other special categories of persons in accordance with the orders issued by the Central Government from time to time in this regard—"

2. The above amplified Saving clause may be included in the Recruitment Rules which may be framed hereafter, and also when any of the existing Recruitment Rules are to be amended. The various concessions including relaxation of age limit admissible to candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and other special categories of persons should always be kept in view by appointing authorities while considering the candidates belonging to these communities.