

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1068
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2017**

Care and protection of disabled people in West Bengal

1068: SHRI VIVEK GUPTA:

Will the **Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT** be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of institutions in West Bengal for care and protection of disabled people along with the number of trained staff working in these institutions;
- (b) whether these institutions have the required manpower to take care of current demand of disabled people and the details of plan to expand the same;
- (c) the details of facilities provided during the last three years including the funds allocated and disbursed, year-wise; and
- (d) whether Government is entering into partnerships with NGOs for welfare of disabled people there and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**(MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT)
(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)**

(a) and (b): Under Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP) Scheme the funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the needy disabled persons (Divyangjan) throughout the country including West Bengal in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

The District Disability Rehabilitation Centre (DDRCs) set up by the Department provide comprehensive services to the persons with disabilities at the grass root level and for facilitating creation of the infrastructure and capacity building at the district level for awareness generation, rehabilitation and training of rehabilitation professionals. 12 DDRCs have been set up in the State of West Bengal. These are: Bardhaman, Purulia,

Bankura, Howrah, Cooch Behar, Birbhum, Malda, Nadia, Jalpaigudi, Murshidabad, Hooghly, Dakshin Dinajpur.

The State Government of West Bengal has also intimated that : (i) 547 organizations are registered under PwD Act, 1995 for providing care, protection, skill development and rehabilitation services to Persons with Disabilities. (ii) 74 sponsored special schools and 83 recognised special schools of Mass Education Extension and Library Science deptt. (iii)NGO run special school 182 (iv) presently 3768 special educators are engaged in special schools and under SSA. A total number of 11 staff is prescribed for DDRCs. The staff are engaged by the DDRC depending upon the requirement and availability of qualified professionals. The State Government of West Bengal has also intimated that more trained manpower is required to take care of disabled people. Efforts are being made to engage more trained manpower.

(c) : Under the ADIP scheme, funds utilized for conducting the various activities and beneficiaries assisted for the State of West Bengal is detailed below:

(Rupees in lakh)

Year	Funds utilised	Beneficiaries covered
2013-14	684.87	16592
2014-15	476.58	16246
2015-16	1150.98	18783
2016-17 (as on 28.2.2017)	850.50	13311

DDRCs provide rehabilitative support to persons with disabilities through

- ❖ Survey & identification of persons with disabilities through camp approach;
- ❖ Awareness Generation for encouraging and enhancing prevention of disabilities, early detection and intervention etc;
- ❖ Early Intervention;
- ❖ Assessment of need of assistive devices, provision/fitment of assistive devices, follow up/repair of assistive devices;
- ❖ Therapeutic Services e.g. Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy etc.;
- ❖ Facilitation of disability certificate, bus passes and other concession/facilities for persons with disabilities;

❖ Referral and arrangement of surgical correction through Govt. & Charitable institutes, etc.

Details of grants-in-aid released to the DDRCs in West Bengal during last three years and current year and number of staff working in the DDRCs are as under:

(As on 06.03.2017)

(Amount in Rs.)

DDRC	Implementing Agency	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	No. of staff
Malda	Haiderpur Shelter of Malda, Malda	17,20,000	1,61,465	8,56,500	2,76,575	11
Nadia	Red Cross Society, Hooghly	17,20,000				11
Jalpaiguri	Pratibandhi Punarvasan Kendra, Jalpaigudi	7,37,140		3,93,262		10
Hooghly	Karimpur Social Welfare Society, Hooghly		17,20,000			11

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) running projects for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) aimed at enabling to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels. The funds allocated and disbursed under DDRS during the last three years in the State of West Bengal is as under:

Year	Funds Allocated (Rs. in lakhs)	Funds Disbursed (Rs. in lakhs)
2014-15	1000.00	143.43
2015-16	358.00	304.34
2016-17	281.00	361.66
(as on 07.03.2017)		

The State Government of West Bengal has also intimated that:

Scheme	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
Scholarship to PwDs below class-VIII	2.5 cr	2.5 cr	2.5 cr
Scholarship to PwDs class-IX onwards	0.26 cr	0.26 cr	0.26 cr
Economic Rehabilitation Grant	68.90 lakh	74.30 lakh	88.9 lakh
Prosthetic Aids & Appliances	40.50 lakh	72.0 lakh	74.30 lakh
Assistance to NGOs	15 Lakh	15 Lakh	15 Lakh
Disability Pension	36.30 cr	36.30 cr	36.30 cr
National Indira Gandhi Disability Pension (State Share)	11.41 cr	15.41 cr.	15.67 cr
Unemployment assistance to PwDs	2.82 cr	2.75 cr	2.26 cr

(d) Grants-in-aid to NGOs, State Government's organization are released on the proposals recommended by the concerned State Government/Union Territory. The Implementing Agency of DDRCs are preferably a Red Cross Society or an autonomous /semi-autonomous body of State Govt. or a reputed NGO. To plan and monitor the activities of DDRC, a District Management Team (DMT) is formed under the chairmanship of District Magistrate. The State Government of West Bengal intimated that Skill development and coaching for competitive examinations through NGOs.
