

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1902**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 07/08/2024

**UNDERREPORTING OF DISABILITY DATA**

1902 DR. FAUZIA KHAN:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken steps to address the lack of disability data in the elderly tribal population considering its significance for policy development with the changing demographic dividend of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has identified any bottlenecks or challenges contributing to the absence of disability data in old age within tribal communities; if so, the details of the measures taken to overcome the bottlenecks; and

(c) the details of measures undertaken by Government in tackling the instance of underreporting of diseases and disabilities in the elderly tribal population, if any?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI DURGADAS UIKEY)

**(a) to (c):** Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has informed that DEPwD relies on Census to be conducted by office of the Office of The Registrar General and Census Commissioner for disability related data. Further, the Department implements Unique Disability Identity (UDID) Project with a view to issue certificates of disability and Unique Disability Identity cards to Persons with Disabilities through competent medical authorities notified by respective State Governments/Union Territories. The project aims to encourage transparency and efficiency in the system of delivering the government benefits to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

As on 15.07.2024, total of 1,09,55,968 UDID cards have been generated out of which 7,97,698 UDID cards have been generated for ST category PwDs as per the category shown by applicant PwD on the portal <https://www.swavlambancard.gov.in/>. Out of the number of UDID cards generated for said ST category, 1,17,541 UDID Cards have been generated for the PwDs having age 60 years and above."

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