

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

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.286
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27.11.2024**

MAKING BUILDINGS ACCESSIBLE FOR THE PwD

286 Smt. Sagarika Ghose:

Will the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment be pleased to state:

- a) the number of Government buildings made PwD friendly since the inception of Rights of Person with Disabilities(PwD) Act in 2016;
- b) whether the aim set at its inception has been achieved; if not, the reason thereof: and
- c) whether Government is aware of the number of buildings constructed after 2016, both Government and private that are PwD friendly?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B. L. VERMA)

(a) to (c) : The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoH&UA) has informed that the work on retrofitting of 211 Central Government buildings across the country under the ministry, for making them accessible and PwD friendly, as targeted under Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan (Accessible India Campaign) has been completed by the Central Public Works Department (CPWD). Further, retrofitting work on 889 Central Government buildings belonging to other Ministries/Departments maintained by CPWD has also been completed.

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has also notified 'Harmonised Guidelines & Standards for Universal Accessibility in India, 2021' and Model Building Bye-Laws (MBBL), 2016, containing accessibility guidelines as guidance to all States and Union Territories. Since 'Works, lands and buildings vested in or in the possession of the State' is a State subject, the exact numbers of buildings of States/Union Territories made accessible are not maintained centrally.

In respect of State/UT Government owned buildings funded under Accessible India Campaign, 21 State/UT Governments have reported completion of retrofitting work in 648 buildings.

With the enactment of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, the improvements in accessibility features in public infrastructure is noticeable in government buildings, railway stations, airports, buses and websites across the country
