

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)
RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1245

ANSWERED ON 30/07/2025

REHABILITATION SERVICES FOR AUTISTIC CHILDREN

1245. SHRI SANJAY SETH:

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

- (a) the details of the total number of registered autistic children in the country since 2021, State-wise and year-wise;
- (b) the details of Government-funded rehabilitation centres specifically catering to autistic children operational since 2021, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) the details of the challenges faced in providing rehabilitation services for autistic children and the steps taken to tackle the same;
- (d) the steps taken to ensure autistic individuals can live independently and have access to community support; and
- (e) whether Government has conducted any assessment of the effectiveness of existing rehabilitation programs, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) & (b) The Government relies on census data to assess the disability population. The last census, conducted in 2011. Autism was not recognized as a disability at that time. However, State-wise data on Intellectual Disability/Mental Retardation is as per **Annexure-A**. To address this gap and to create a national database for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), the Department is implementing the UDID Project. Through the UDID portal (www.swavlambancard.gov.in), notified medical authorities issue disability certificates and Unique Disability ID cards based on disability evaluation. Between 01.01.2021 and 24.07.2025, a total of 39,563 UDID cards have been issued to persons with Autism. State and year-wise details are at **Annexure-B**.

(c) & (d) Autism care and rehabilitation in India face key challenges such as low awareness, delayed diagnosis, shortage of trained professionals, high therapy costs, and limited insurance coverage. Services

are mostly urban-centric, with a lack of standardized protocols and outcome tracking. Stigma, inadequate transition support, and poor coordination among stakeholders further hinder effective care. To address these issues, the government has launched awareness campaigns, strengthened professional training through RCI and ISITEP, and is providing support via the Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme and giving grant-in-aid to special projects under the DDRS. Additionally, the Government through its Cross Disability Early Intervention Centres (CDEICs) attached with its National Institutes/CRCs helps to provide holistic support to children with special needs in the country. CDEICs are equipped to provide services for screening and identification facilities for identification of risk cases and referring for appropriate rehabilitative services; Therapeutic Services viz. Speech Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy and Parental/Peer Counseling, sensory integration, vocational skills training facilities are provided to autistic children at these centres. At present, 26 CDEICs have been approved in National Institutes and Composite Regional Centres in various States/UTs. CDEIC centres collaborate with local hospitals, NGOs, Anganwadi centres and schools to facilitate referral and community-based support.

(e) The government has established multiple layers of assessment and monitoring for its rehabilitation programs, including periodic inspections, central monitoring teams, and use of standardized assessment tools. These mechanisms are aimed at ensuring program effectiveness and facilitating continuous improvement. Some centres have documented “success stories” and enhanced parental confidence as a result of therapy and counseling interventions. Assessments indicate improvement in children’s communication, ADLs, social and motor skills, and a measurable reduction in parental stress, underscoring the positive impact of these programs.

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) and (b) of Rajay Sabha Unstarred Question No-1245 to be answered on 30/07/2025 regarding “Rehabilitation Services for Autistic Children”

Number of persons with Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disabilities as per Census 2011		
S.No.	State	Mental Retardation/Intellectual Disabilities
1	Andhra Pradesh	132380
2	Arunachal Pradesh	1264
3	Assam	26374
4	Bihar	89251
5	Chhattisgarh	33171
6	Delhi	16338
7	Goa	1817
8	Gujarat	66393
9	Haryana	30070
10	Himachal Pradesh	8986
11	J&K	16724
12	Jharkhand	37458
13	Karnataka	93974
14	Kerala	65709
15	Madhya Pradesh	77803
16	Maharashtra	160209
17	Manipur	4506
18	Mizoram	1585
19	Meghalaya	2332
20	Nagaland	1250
21	Odisha	72399
22	Punjab	45070
23	Rajasthan	81389
24	Sikkim	516
25	Tamil Nadu	100847
26	Tripura	4307
27	Uttar Pradesh	181342
28	Uttarakhand	11450
29	West Bengal	136523
30	A&N Islands	294
31	Chandigarh	1090
32	Daman & Diu	176
33	D& N Haveli	180
34	Lakshadweep	112
35	Puducherry	2335
	Total	1505624

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Year wise and state wise Number of UDID cards issued to the persons with Autism (Since 01.01.2021 to 24.07.2025)						
Sl. No.	State	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	3	11	8	22	10
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	11	22	24	44
3	Arunachal Pradesh	8	11	3	8	21
4	Assam	77	138	112	137	125
5	Bihar	270	2529	373	374	279
6	Chandigarh	28	56	107	80	25
7	Chhattisgarh	37	60	73	129	97
8	Delhi	92	503	809	721	424
9	Goa	40	85	142	162	26
10	Gujarat	128	282	501	556	351
11	Haryana	54	130	151	134	113
12	Himachal Pradesh	11	22	32	45	46
13	Jammu And Kashmir	48	98	319	172	112
14	Jharkhand	11	381	86	61	48
15	Karnataka	250	511	519	483	404
16	Kerala	267	828	1239	1148	569
17	Ladakh	0	2	1	2	1
18	Lakshadweep	2	0	1	1	1
19	Madhya Pradesh	229	133	199	322	262
20	Maharashtra	297	1092	1856	1306	819
21	Manipur	8	35	38	56	59
22	Meghalaya	7	30	24	43	45
23	Mizoram	4	11	18	35	22
24	Nagaland	13	13	2	13	4
25	Odisha	100	293	342	473	264
26	Puducherry	6	10	24	46	23
27	Punjab	103	96	131	104	80
28	Rajasthan	90	88	20	85	178
29	Sikkim	13	21	10	10	10
30	Tamil Nadu	579	1583	1625	947	657
31	Telangana	0	0	0	0	73
32	The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	1	7	11	23	8
33	Tripura	13	17	28	42	29
34	Uttar Pradesh	347	673	594	610	333
35	Uttarakhand	36	121	109	104	78
36	West Bengal	0	4	170	1104	1585
	Total	3172	9885	9699	9582	7225

