

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES  
(DIVYANGJAN)

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2059**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06/08/2025

**Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan and empowerment of PwDs**

2059. Shri Ghanshyam Tiwari:

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

(a) the details of the progress of "Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan" launched by Government for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs);

(b) the number of public buildings, transport facilities and websites that have been made accessible so far and the details thereof; and

(c) the schemes being implemented by Government to provide Assistive Devices to PwDs and the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B. L. VERMA)

**(a) & (b)** The Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan; AIC) was launched on 03<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015 as a nation-wide flagship campaign for enhancing accessibility for Divyangjans in three verticals i.e. built environment, transport and Information & Communication ecosystem. During the Accessible India Campaign, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities has released ₹564.50 crore to the State Government/Union Territories for retrofitting of 1835 government buildings. As accessibility is an ongoing and continuous process, the Department is actively pursuing with the concerned stakeholders for achieving universal accessibility.

Ministry of Railways has submitted that extensive accessibility improvements have been implemented across Indian railway stations, including: standard ramps at 5,639 stations, tactile

guidance surfaces for visually impaired passengers, accessible parking at 2,525 stations, accessible ticket counters at 313 stations, lifts at 683 stations, wheelchairs at 5,854+ stations, and accessible toilets at 4,829 stations. Navigation aids comprise Coach Guidance Systems at 947 stations, Train Indication Boards at 1,143 stations, and Public Address Systems at 6,133 stations to assist visually impaired passengers, creating a more inclusive travel environment for Divyangjans.

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has submitted that collaboration with 61 State Transport Undertakings across 24 States and UTs has resulted in significant accessibility improvements. Of 1,45,490 total buses, 51,041 buses (35% of fleet) now meet basic accessibility standards, comprising 25,216 intercity coaches (26%) and 25,825 intracity buses (53%). Additionally, 2,521 out of 3,363 bus stations (75%) across all STU networks have been made accessible through universal-design retrofitting of both fleets and terminals.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has submitted that 68 Central Govt websites were made accessible and certified by Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC). A total of 145 websites (123 Central, 4 State) now have valid STQC certifications for accessibility as per GIGW guidelines. 3000+ government websites have been on boarded on the s3waas platform till date. Also, 676 State/UT government websites have been made accessible under AIC.

**(c)** The Department is implementing the Scheme of ‘Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP)’ under which funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the eligible persons with disabilities 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.

Under the provision of ADIP SSA (Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan) various types of aids and assistive devices are distributed to school going students including deaf individuals like Artificial limbs, Motorized Tricycle, Walking Stick, Hearing aids, Smart Phone, Teaching Learning Material (TLM) Kits and Smart Cane.

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