

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2218

ANSWERED ON- 11/03/2026

UNIVERSAL COVERAGE FOR PROVIDING COCHLEAR IMPLANTS

2218: SHRI MUKUL BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

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

- (a) the estimated number of children requiring cochlear implant in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of the scheme that provides for cochlear implant, including the financial assistance and the eligibility criteria to identify beneficiaries;
- (c) number of beneficiaries covered under the scheme and the amount spent by Government during last five years, year-wise;
- (d) whether Government plans for universal coverage for providing cochlear implants; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI B. L. VERMA)

- (a) and (b): The Department is implementing the Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) Scheme, under which there is a provision for Cochlear Implant(CI) for children with hearing impairment. The ADIP Scheme is demand-driven, and cochlear implants are provided to eligible beneficiaries who register under the Scheme, subject to eligibility criteria and availability of funds. The eligibility criteria for beneficiaries and the quantum of financial assistance provided under the ADIP Scheme is as under:

(I) Eligibility criteria for the beneficiaries

- (i) Indian citizen;
- (ii) Having at least 40% disability;
- (iii) Monthly income from all sources not exceeding Rs. 30000

- (iv) Age below 5 years for congenital/pre-lingual hearing loss
- (v) Age below 18 years for acquired/post-lingual hearing loss

(II) Financial Assistance

- (i) Age below 5 years for congenital/pre-lingual hearing loss-Maximum of 7 lakhs per beneficiary
- (ii) Age below 18 years for acquired/post-lingual hearing loss-Maximum of 6 lakhs per beneficiary

(c): Number of beneficiaries covered and funds released under the ADIP Scheme during the last five year, year-wise is as under:

Year	Number of CI beneficiaries	Funds released (Rs. in crore)
2020-21	543	17.92
2021-22	678	41.57
2022-23	1152	42.05
2023-24	1395	55.02
2024-25	41	8.00

(d) and (e): No.
