

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO -621**  
ANSWERED ON – 04/02/2026

**STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOOD FOR TRANSGENDER PERSONS**

621. SHRI S.R. SIVALINGAM

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note of recent initiatives by States including Tamil Nadu's induction of transgender persons into Home Guards roles, to promote equal employment as an example of inclusion of marginalized communities;
- (b) the State-wise and district-wise details of welfare schemes, jobs, training and skill development programmes benefitting transgender persons and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in the last two years under central schemes;
- (c) the funds sanctioned, released and utilised for these programmes; and
- (d) the steps proposed by Government to strengthen livelihood, financial security and social inclusion for transgender persons and PwDs across all States?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) Yes

(b) to (c) The details of welfare schemes, jobs, training and skill development programmes benefitting transgender persons and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in the last two years under central schemes, along with funds sanctioned, released and utilised, are placed at Annexure.

(d) The steps taken by the Government to strengthen livelihood, financial security and social inclusion for transgender persons are as under:

i. SMILE Scheme: Under the Central Sector Scheme 'Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise (SMILE) scheme, the sub-scheme 'Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons' provides comprehensive rehabilitation support to transgender persons, including shelter (Garima Greh), skill development, livelihood support, healthcare, scholarships, national portal and helpline and transgender protection cells.

ii. Identity and Welfare Access: The National Portal for Transgender Persons provides online issuance of Transgender Identity Certificates and ID Cards to enable access to welfare benefits.

iii. Employment and Financial Inclusion: An Equal Opportunities Policy for Transgender Persons has been issued in February 2024 to promote non-discrimination and ensure equal access to employment opportunities and allied benefits.

Employee Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has recognised Transgender Identity Certificate/Card as a valid proof for effecting changes in the records of EPFO. Further, clarifications by RBI and the Department of Financial Services have ensured unrestricted access to bank accounts, loans, nominations and joint accounts for transgender and queer persons.

iv. Support for PwDs: For Persons with Disabilities, the Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) and the Umbrella Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities provide rehabilitation, education and livelihood support on a pan-India basis. Details are given in the Annexure.

## ANNEXURE REFERRED TO REPLY OF-

Part (b) the State-wise and district-wise details of welfare schemes, jobs, training and skill development programmes benefitting transgender persons and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in the last two years under central schemes; and

Part (c) the funds sanctioned, released and utilised for these programmes;

**OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 621 TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.02.2026 REGARDING STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOOD FOR TRANSGENDER PERSONS BY SHRI S.R. SIVALINGAM**

The details of welfare schemes, jobs, training and skill development programmes benefitting transgender persons and Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in the last two years under central schemes and the funds sanctioned, released and utilised for these programmes is as under:

**Department of Social Justice and Empowerment**

i. Besides implementing SMILE(Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons) scheme, National Portal for Transgender Persons has been launched to issue Transgender certificates and ID cards to eligible Transgender persons. This is an end to end online process where the applicant can apply for the TG certificate and also download the certificate after issue without any requirement to go to any office of issue. This portal has more than 99 Lakh visitors and as of now, 31,559 certificates have been issued.

ii. Department has set up 23 Garima Grehs, shelter homes for destitute transgender persons in 17 States/UTs namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh (2), Maharashtra (3), Manipur, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh (3) and West Bengal (2).

The details of fund released and number of beneficiaries benefitted, including in the state of Tamil Nadu, during the last two years is as under:-

(in Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Union Territory	Release of funds in 2023-24	No. of beneficiaries during 2023-24	Release of funds in 2024-25	No. of beneficiaries during 2024-25
1	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	5,02,500	25
2	Assam	-	-	5,02,500	25
3	Bihar	29,63,100	02	-	43
4	Chhattisgarh	26,86,303	25	9,09,132	35
5	Delhi	33,95,173	20	30,72,534	25
6	Gujarat	24,87,263	05	22,67,914	23
7	Karnataka	-	-	5,02,500	26
8	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	5,02,500	08
9	Maharashtra	70,11,451	60	56,24,106	72
10	Odisha	28,76,372	22	26,59,296	25
11	Punjab	-	-	5,02,500	25
12	Rajasthan	30,10,309	23	-	25
13	Tamil Nadu	9,76,615	03	-	20
14	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	5,02,500	25
15	West Bengal	45,88,795	09	-	27

iii. Skill development training to transgender persons has been provided through various Sectoral Skill Councils etc. and training has been provided to 725 transgender persons during FY 2024-25.

In addition, Skill Development Training to 725 transgender persons has been provided by National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) and to 181 transgender persons by National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation (NBCFDC).

iv. Department has issued "Equal Opportunities Policy for Transgender Persons" to ensure that the Transgender community has equal access to employment opportunities etc.

v. The 15 days Entrepreneurship Development Programme has been allotted to National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD) to train transgender persons, countrywide. Its two batches with 25 candidates each have been trained till date.

vi. Totals funds utilized in the scheme during last two years is as under:

Financial Year	Funds utilized (Rs. in Crores)
2023-24	3.40
2024-25	5.02

#### **Department of Empowerment of Person with Disabilities**

The Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) is a Central Sector Scheme of the Department that provides grant-in-aid for the projects related to the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. The scheme aims to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric, and socio-functional levels.

The details of fund released and number of beneficiaries benefitted under DDRS, including in the state of Tamil Nadu, during the last two years is as under: -

Financial Year	Actual Expenditure (Rs. In Cr.)	No. of Beneficiaries
2023-24	129.97	30589
2024-25	139.86	34898

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is implementing an Umbrella Scheme titled "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities (Divyangjan)" which comprises six components viz;

- Pre-matric (Classes IX & X),
- Post-matric (Classes XI to Post Graduate Degree and Diploma),
- Top Class Education (Graduate and Post Graduate Degree/Diploma in notified institutes of excellence in education),
- National Overseas Scholarship (Masters Degree/Ph.D in Foreign Universities),
- National Fellowship for PwDs (M.Phil and Ph.D in Indian Universities),
- Free Coaching (for competitive exams for Group A and B posts and entrance examinations for admission to technical and professional courses).

The umbrella scholarship scheme is to empower students with disabilities to study and further their education in order to earn their livelihood and help them face several barriers – physical, financial, and psychological in pursuing studies and living with dignity.

The scholarship scheme is a Central Sector Scheme and implemented on a pan-India basis. Being a Central Sector Scheme, the scholarship amount is not allocated State/District-wise and is released directly to the students' bank account in DBT mode.

The details of funds released, physical and financial achievements during the last two years under the scheme is as under:

Year	No of beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in crores)
2023-24	29374	131.33
2024-25	23044	89.20

### **State Government of Haryana**

#### **1. Unique Disability Id (UDID) for Persons with disabilities**

So far 234009 UDID cards have been issued.

#### **2. Scholarships for the Students with Disabilities (100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme):**

**a) Pre-Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities:** Pre-Matric Scholarship is awarded to students from class IX to X.

##### **Rate of Scholarship:**

Scholarship of Rs.500 for day scholars and Rs.800 per month for hostellers plus book and disability allowance ranging from Rs.2000/- to Rs.4000/-

**b) Post-Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities:** Post-Matric scholarship is awarded for disabled students from class XI to Master's Degree or Diploma level.

##### **Rate of Scholarship:**

There are different rates of maintenance allowance for Post-Graduate, Graduate, Diploma, professional courses leading to degree, diploma etc, in different disciplines. It ranges from Rs.900-1600 p.m. for hosteller and Rs.550-750 p.m. for day scholars plus Tuition fee (maximum ceiling Rs.1.50 lakh per annum), book allowance and disability allowance ranging from Rs.2000/- to Rs.4000/- per annum.

**c) Scholarships for Top Class Education for Students with Disabilities:** It covers students with disabilities (SwDs) for pursuing studies at the level of graduate and post-graduate degree or diploma in notified institute of excellence in education identified by DEPwD.

**Rate of Scholarship:** Monthly maintenance allowance of Rs.3000/- for hostellers, Rs.1500/- for day scholars, Rs.2000/- per month disability allowance, book grant Rs.5000/-per annum and tuition fee upto Rs.2 lakh per annum

**3. Haryana Divyang Pension:** State Government of Haryana has been providing Divyang Pension @ of Rs.3,000 per month to give financial support to Divyangjan persons.

4. State Government of Haryana vide their notification No. 1479-SW(4)2007 dt 19 Oct 2007 and memo No. 40/2022/2024-4SW dt 31 Jan 2024, has been providing allowance to eunuchs at the rate of Rs. 3,000/- per month to provide financial security of Transgender Persons.

### **State Government of Uttar Pradesh**

The data of pensioners with disabilities in Uttar Pradesh for last two years (2023-24 and 2024-25) under Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme, operated by the Government of India for the welfare of persons with disabilities, is as under:

<b>Financial year</b>	<b>Total no of pensioners with disabilities</b>
2023-24	161707
2024-25	172091

2. The total funds sanctioned, released and utilized for these Programmes are as below:

(Rs. in Lakhs)

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Funds Sanctioned</b>	<b>Funds released</b>	<b>Funds utilised</b>
2023-24	1590.23	1590.23	1590.23
2024-25	1607.30	1607.30	1598.93

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