

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION No.2136  
TO BE ANSWERED ON. 31.07.2018

**Education and Rehabilitation of Disabled Children**

**2136: SHRI M.B. RAJESH:**

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

- (a) whether the children/persons with disabilities are deprived of better education in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the remedial steps taken by the Government to provide education, training, rehabilitation and employment to the physically and mentally challenged persons in the country;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring education of disabled children under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government in this direction, so far and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)**

(a) & (b) Relief for persons with disabilities is primarily a State subject by virtue of entry 9 of the State list of the Constitution of India. Children/persons with disabilities belonging to different categories have different abilities to pursue education. The Right to Education Act 2009 mandates education to all up to the age of 14 years. Further, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 mandates the Government to take steps to ensure that every child with benchmark disability between the age of six to eighteen years get free education in a neighbourhood school, or in a special school, of his choice. The said Act provides for reservation of not less than five percent in all Government and Government aided institution of higher education to persons with benchmark disabilities. The said Act also provides for not less than four percent reservation in Government jobs for persons with benchmark disabilities in terms of section 34(1).

Further, Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Department of School Education and Literacy, under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, supports the States & UTs to identify, assess, enroll Children with Special Needs (CWSN) in schools and provide them with appropriate assistive devices and supportive teaching learning materials and resource support. Efforts are also made under the SSA to persuade parents and communities to bring such children to schools, through appropriate training and school-parent interaction.

(c) & (d) As per Government of India (Allocation of Business) Rules, 1961, Ministry of Human Resource Development is the nodal Ministry with respect to matters relating to education. As per the said rules, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) is the nodal department for overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes for persons with disabilities. However, overall management and monitoring of the sectoral programme in respect of persons with disabilities shall be the responsibility of the concerned Central Ministries, State Government and UT administration. Each central Ministry/Department needs to discharge nodal responsibility concerning each sector. Thus, education for persons with disabilities also comes under the purview of Ministry of Human Resource Development.

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