

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3307  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 07.08.2018**

**ASSISTIVE LIVING DEVICES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS**

**†3307. SHRIMATI RANJANBEN BHATT:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to provide spectacles, dentures and wheel chairs free of cost to senior citizens living below the poverty line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps so far in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)**

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has been implementing a scheme for providing physical aids and Assisted Living Devices for Senior Citizens belonging to BPL category named “Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)” since 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2017 with the objective of providing Senior Citizens, belonging to BPL category and suffering from age related disabilities/ infirmities, with such physical aids and assisted living devices which can restore near normalcy in their bodily functions. Under the Scheme, assisted living devices such as Walking Sticks, Elbow Crutches, Walkers/ Crutches, Tripods/ Quadpods, Hearing Aids, Wheelchairs, Artificial Dentures and Spectacles are provided free of cost to the beneficiary senior citizens. The Scheme is being implemented through the “Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)”, a Public Sector Undertaking under this Ministry, as the sole Implementing Agency. The devices are distributed in the camp mode. The beneficiaries are identified through Assessment Camps organised in collaboration with the respective State Government/District Administration and the devices are distributed in Distribution Camps organised in the selected districts. The Scheme is being funded from Senior Citizens’ Welfare Fund (SCWF). So far, a total of 292 districts have been selected including Aspirational and Backward districts from all States/UTs for the implementation of the RVY Scheme. As on date, 46 Distribution Camps have been organised at district level distributing 112380 aids and assistive devices to 49184 Senior Citizens.

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