

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

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO. \*382  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.01.2019**

**National Sports Centres for Divyangs**

**\*382. SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to set up National Sports Centres for Divyangs in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of such centres proposed to be set up and the locations identified for the purpose, State/UT-wise including Telangana;
- (d) the funds allocated in this regard; and
- (e) the other steps being taken by the Government to empower Divyangs in the country?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**(SHRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT)**

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 382 for 08.01.2019 asked by Shri Bheemrao B. Patil regarding National Sports Centres for Divyangs .**

(a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Ministry proposes to establish five Centres for Disability Sports, one each in all the five zones of the country viz., at Zirakpur in Punjab (North zone), Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh (Central zone), Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh (South zone) and Shillong in Meghalaya (East zone). The location of the Centre in the Western zone is yet to be finalised. The Centres for Disability Sports at Gwalior and at Shillong will be set up during the Fourteenth Finance Commission period (April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2020). The remaining three Centres will be considered in the Fifteenth Finance Commission period after the setting up and operationalisation of the Centres at Gwalior and Shillong. An amount of Rs. 2.50 crore has been allocated for this purpose in Financial Year 2018-19.

(e) The Government has enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 which came into force from 19.04.2017. The Act provides various rights and entitlements for persons with disabilities and also mandates the Government to take steps to ensure that the persons with disabilities enjoy their rights equally with others. The Act has increased the number of disabilities from 7 to 21. The Act has penal provision for violations of its provisions.

The Ministry implements various schemes and programmes to supplement the efforts of States/UTs towards empowerment of persons with disabilities. The important schemes are:

**1. Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS): -**

Under DDRS grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for their projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities aimed at enabling them to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or socio-functional levels.

**2. District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs):**

The District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) are set up in the approved districts of the country for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities at the grass root level under the Scheme for implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA).

**3. Scholarships for Students with Disabilities:**

The main objective of the umbrella scholarship scheme is to empower students with disabilities to study further in order to earn their livelihood and to find a dignified place in society, as they face several barriers – physical, financial and psychological in pursuing studies and living with dignity.

The umbrella scholarship scheme comprises six components: (i) Pre-matric (for classes IX & X), (ii) Post-matric (for Class XI to Post-graduate degree/diploma), (iii) Top Class Education (for Graduate degree/Post-graduate degree/diploma in notified institutes of excellence in education), (iv) National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) (for M.Phil/Ph.D in Indian Universities), (v) National Overseas Scholarship (for Master's degree/Doctorate in universities abroad) and (v) Free Coaching (for students appearing in competitive examinations for Government jobs and admission to technical and professional courses).

**4. Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP):**

Under ADIP, funds are released to various implementing agencies to assist the needy disabled persons, including children/youth 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 and enhancing their economic potential. Further under ADIP Scheme, aids and appliances are also distributed to Children below 14 years of age and attending School under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. As per the agreement with Ministry of Human Resource Development, Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), the implementing agency of the Department, is reimbursed 40% of the expenditure by the State Government Authorities, while 60% of the expenditure is met through grants under ADIP Scheme.

**5. The National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities under SIPDA Scheme:**

The Department implements a National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) as a component under the umbrella scheme 'Scheme for implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA)'. Under this programme, Skill training is imparted through training partners based in various States/UTs and empanelled with this Department, in addition to National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC), National Institutes (NIs) and Composite Regional Centres (CRCs).

**6. Scheme for implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA):**

Under the Scheme for implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA), funds are provided to States/UTs for creation of barrier free environment, strengthening the office of the Commissioner for PwDs, etc. and under Accessible India Campaign. Funds are being released for creation of barrier free environment by construction of lifts, ramps, accessible toilets, tactile floors and accessible websites, etc. for the benefit of persons with disabilities.

**7. The National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (National Trust):**

The National Trust is a statutory organization under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. This organization implements the following programmes for rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities:-

- (i) Disha (Early Intervention and School Readiness Scheme).
- (ii) Vikaas (Day Care Scheme for children/adults aged 10 years and above).
- (iii) Samarth (Respite Care Residential Scheme).
- (iv) Gharaunda (Group Home for Adults Scheme).
- (v) Niramaya (Health Insurance Scheme).
- (vi) Sahyogi (Caregivers' training Scheme).
- (vii) Prerna (Marketing Assistance Scheme).
- (viii) Sambhav (Display of Aids and Assistive Devices Scheme).
- (ix) Badhte Kadam (Awareness, Community Interaction and Innovative Projects Scheme).

## **8. National Institutes (NIs):**

There are eight National Institutes under this Ministry working in the field of disability. National Institutes are autonomous bodies established for different types of disabilities. These institutes are engaged in Human Resources Development in the field of disability, providing rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities and promoting research and development efforts. These eight National Institutes are as follows:-

- I. National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), Dehradun;
- II. Ali Yavar Jung National Institute of Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD), Mumbai;
- III. National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID), Secunderabad;
- IV. National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai;
- V. Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (PDUNIPPD), Delhi;
- VI. Swami Vivekanand National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack;
- VII. National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (NILD), Kolkata; and
- VIII. Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) New Delhi.

## **9. Composite Regional Centres (CRCs):**

This Department is also running 16 Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) across the country to provide comprehensive rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities under one roof. These CRCs are functioning as extended arms of the National Institutes (NIs). These CRCs are located at Srinagar, Lucknow, Bhopal, Ahmedabad, Kozhikode, Nagpur, Gorakhpur, Nellore, Davangere, Guwahati, Rajnandagaon, Balangir, Sundernagar, Patna, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh.

## **10. National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC):**

NHFDC provides concessional credit to Persons with Disabilities for self-employment, higher studies and to purchase assistive devices. Self-employment activities include-setting up of small business, purchase of vehicle for commercial hiring, micro credit etc.

## **11. Unique Disability Identity(UDID) Card project:**

With a view to create a national database of persons with disabilities and also to issue Unique Identity Card to each person with disability in the country through uniform web-based programme, Ministry implements Unique Disability Identity (UDID) project. The application software of the UDID project also provides an on-line platform for issuance of certificate of disability. So far the project has been implemented in 471 districts of 28 States/UTs and more than 12.00 Lakh e-UDID cards have been generated.

**12. Scheme of Support for Establishment/Modernization/Capacity Augmentation of Braille Presses:**

The Department has launched the Scheme in 2014 with the objective of establishing 18 new Braille presses, 3 small units of Braille presses in UTs, modernizing 12 existing Braille presses and augmenting capacity of 3 Braille presses.

**13. Accessible India Campaign:**

The Accessible India Campaign (AIC) was launched on 03.12.2015 for creating universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities in Built Environment, Transport and Information and Communication Technology (ICT) ecosystem.

**14. Scheme for Assistance to Indian Spinal Injury Centre (ISIC), New Delhi towards treatment of spinal cord injury poor patients:**

The main objective of the Scheme is reimbursement of funds to the Indian Spinal Injury Centre, New Delhi by way of grants-in aid by the Department for providing free treatment to spinal injury poor patients and their rehabilitation.

**15. Scheme of Setting up of State Spinal Injury Centres**

The Scheme provides for setting of a comprehensive rehabilitation centre attached to the district hospitals of State/UT capital, having 12 beds exclusively dedicated for treatment and management of spinal injury patients from the economically weaker sections.

**16. Scheme for incentives to private employers to hire Persons with Disabilities**

Under the revised scheme, payment of employer's contribution towards the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) and the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) for the first ten years, is made by the Government of India, in respect of Persons with Disabilities appointed in the private sector to a post without any wage ceiling.

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