

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2221
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.12.2018**

Facilities for Visually Impaired Students

2221. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the inclusive provisions that are there for specially-abled, especially visually impaired students and transgender community in the Central Universities;
- (b) the efforts made by the Government to bring inclusive curriculum for the visually impaired students;
- (c) whether the Government has given any orders to the Central Universities for printing textbooks in braille script, making syllabus as audio books and to come up with tactile diagrams and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to introduce bridge course for these students and if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the efforts taken by the Government to include more such socially and economically backward students?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. SATYA PAL SINGH)**

(a) to (c): The University Grants Commission (UGC) issued instructions from time to time to all Universities for facilities to impaired students and implementation of the reservation policy for PwD. The UGC has issued the following letters to the Universities

- (i) To provide facility of cassette recorders for Blind Students in Universities.
- (ii) All educational institutions should be made barrier free within a reasonable time-frame of, say, two years for universities and three years for colleges and schools. They should also have facilities to provide Braille books and talking books. Sign language and interpreter should also be provided in institutions having hearing impaired students.
- (iii) Circulated guidelines for conducting written examination for Persons with Disabilities to all Universities.
- (iv) Sent a copy of the Gazette Notification of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 to all Universities for compliance.

All higher education institutions receiving aid from the Government shall reserve not less than 5% seats (in admissions) for persons with benchmark disabilities and 4% of the total number of vacancies in the cadre strength in each group of posts meant to be filled with persons with benchmark Disabilities.

(d) & (e): Presently there is no such proposal under consideration of the Ministry of Human Resource Development.
