

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 497
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.06.2019**

WELFARE OF HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

497. PROF. SAUGATA ROY:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken necessary steps for the welfare of handicapped persons especially children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken note that a large number of schools/colleges do not have the facility to help the handicapped children access the buildings of such institutes; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to ensure the said facilities for such children?

ANSWERS

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) and (b): Yes, Government has taken various necessary step for the welfare of handicapped persons. For the welfare of handicapped persons especially children following schemes are being run by the Department:-

(i) Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP): Under this scheme, funds are released to various implementing agencies to assist the needy persons with disabilities 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 enhance their economic potential.

(ii) Scheme for Implementation of Right of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA): Under this scheme, assistance is provided for various activities relating to implementation of Right of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, particularly, for creation of barrier free environment for persons with disabilities.

(iii) Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS): Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to NGOs for projects relating to rehabilitation of PwDs which is aimed at enabling them to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychological and social function levels.

(iv) Scholarship schemes for students with disabilities: Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided to students with disabilities for Pre-metric, Post-metric, Top Class Education, National Fellowship, National Overseas Scholarship.

(v) National Institute : There are 8 National Institute established for different types of disabilities and are engaged in Human Resources Development in the field of disability, providing rehabilitation services to the children with disabilities and research and development efforts.

(c) and (d): Government is aware that there is a lack of accessible facilities in various educational institutions. The Government has enacted the Right of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 which came into force from 19.04.2017 focus on promoting accessibility. The act mandates appropriate Governments and local authorities to make buildings, campus and various institutions accessible for persons with disabilities. It is mandatory for the existing public buildings which includes educational buildings to adhere to the accessibility norms as per prescribed under Right of Persons with Disabilities Rule 2017 within the period of 5 years.
