

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2129
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2022

WELFARE OF DEAF AND DUMB

2129. SHRI MALOOK NAGAR:

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

(a) the details of the schemes available for the welfare of deaf and dumb, boys and girls; and

(b) the other steps taken by the Government for the welfare of deaf and dumb in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)

(a) and (b) Relief to the persons with disabilities is a State subject by virtue of entry '9' of the State List of the Constitution of India. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments for empowerment of persons with disabilities.

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment implements the following major schemes for welfare of the persons with disabilities including persons with hearing impairment:

(I) The scheme, namely, "Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP)" under which funds are released to various Implementing Agencies for distribution of aids and assistive devices to eligible persons with disabilities throughout the country. Under the ADIP Scheme, there is a provision for Cochlear Implant Surgery for children with hearing impairment.

(II) The scheme, namely, "Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)" under which grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) running projects like Pre-school and Early Intervention, Special

Schools, Community Based Rehabilitation etc. for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), aimed at enabling them to maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels.

(III) The scheme, namely, "Scholarships for Students with Disabilities" under which six components of the Scholarship Scheme are Pre-matric (Classes IX & X), Post-matric (Classes XI to Post Graduate Degree/Diploma), Top Class Education (Graduate and Post Graduate Degree/Diploma in notified Institutes of excellence in education), National Fellowship (M. Phil/Ph.D in Indian Universities), National Overseas Scholarship (Master's Degree and Ph.D in Foreign Universities) and Free Coaching (for competitive exams for group A, B and C posts and entrance examinations for admission to technical and professional courses).

(IV) The scheme, namely, "National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)' under which skill training is imparted to persons with disabilities in the age group of 15 to 59 years.

(V) The scheme, namely "Financial Assistance to the existing deaf colleges in the country (Deaf College Scheme)" in five regions of the country envisages financial assistance to colleges affiliated to the UGC approved State/ Central/ UT administered colleges in each of the following five regions of the country: Rural Development and Management college for the Deaf in North Zone of India, College for Deaf in West Zone, College for deaf in South Zone, College for Deaf Central Zone, College for Deaf in East Zone.

(VI) In addition to above, there are two National Institutes (NIs) namely Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Speech & Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD), Mumbai and Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLRTC), New Delhi working in the field of hearing and speech disabilities.

(VII) Further, National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) channelizes concessional loans for the socio-economic empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) including persons with hearing impairment throughout the country. There are two flagship schemes of NHFDC for channelizing concessional finance through its partner agencies i.e. Divyangjan Swavalamban Yojana (DSY) and Vishesh Microfinance Yojana (VMY).
