

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3127
ANSWERED ON 20.03.2023

Education of Children Suffering from Cerebral Palsy/ASD/Mental Disability

3127. SHRI VISHNU DATT SHARMA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are adequate specialised arrangements in terms of physical infrastructure and human resource for education of nearly 2.2 million children suffering from Cerebral Palsy and another 2 million suffering from Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and also for millions of other children suffering from different kinds of mental disabilities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRIMATI ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha launched in 2018-19, has dedicated Inclusive Education component for the education of Children with Special Needs (CwSN) covering all CwSN with one or more disabilities as mentioned in the schedule of disabilities of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 including cerebral palsy, autism spectrum disorder and Mental behaviour. It aims to look at education of CwSN in a continuum from Pre-Nursery to Class XII studying in Government, Government-aided and local body schools.

Through this component, CwSN are provided support via specific student oriented interventions such as identification and assessment camps, provision of aids, appliances and assistive devices, transportation, scribe and escort allowance support, Braille books and large print books for children with visual impairment, stipend for girls with special needs and teaching-learning materials etc. in order to appropriately address their unique educational requirements in general schools. Capacity building of general teachers and special educators on meeting learning needs to provide quality education to children with disabilities and improve their learning outcomes, are also covered. Further, individualized support is also provided through therapeutic interventions at the block level.

The focus of Samagra Shiksha is on providing inclusive education to children with special needs wherein, children regardless of their abilities/disabilities participate and learn together in the same class, thus creating an enabling educational environment for all students.

Samagra Shiksha also has provisions for ramps and disabled friendly toilets for barrier free access to schools for all children.

Further, Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), has been setup under the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 (No.34 of 1992) under the administrative control of the Ministry of

Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) to regulate and monitor the training programmes in the field of disability rehabilitation and special education, to promote research in disability rehabilitation and special education, to maintain a Central Rehabilitation Registration and for matter connected therewith or incidental thereto. The professional/personnel registered with RCI in the field of Cerebral Palsy, Autism Spectrum Disorders and Intellectual Disabilities are as under: -

S. No.	Course Name	Professional	Personnel	Total
1.	Cerebral Palsy	63	3017	3080
2.	Autism Spectrum Disorders	08	3305	3313
3.	Intellectual Disabilities	15960	37911	53871
	Total	16031	44233	60264
