

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 239**

TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.12.2023

**“FUNCTIONING OF NHFDC”**

239: Dr. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:

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

(a) whether the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) is functioning under the administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and if so, the total number of such NHFDC that are functioning presently;

(b) the motive and purpose for which the NHFDC has been constituted;

(c) the total number of handicapped who got financial assistance from these NHFDC during the last five years; and

(d) whether the Union Government has ever reviewed the functioning of these NHFDC and if so, the outcome of the reviews?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)**

(a) Yes, National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) [formerly National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC), a Central Public Sector Enterprises(CPSE)] is functioning under the administrative control of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

There is only one NDFDC functioning under aegis of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India.

(b) The main objects of NDFDC as set out in the Memorandum of Association of NDFDC is at **Annexure-I**.

(c) During the last five financial years (2018-19 to 2022-23), aggregate amount of Rs. 577.39 Crore has been released by NDFDC for the benefit of 82,850 PwDs under concessional loan schemes.

(d) The functioning of NDFDC and its schemes are reviewed from time to time by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India as well the Board of NDFDC.

In addition, NDFDC organizes conferences/ workshops of its Implementing Agencies and the implementation of its schemes is reviewed by CMD, NDFDC.

Based on recommendation/suggestion in review meetings, following steps have been taken;

i) Change of name:

The name of the Corporation changed from National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation to **National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation(NDFDC)**.

ii) Rebate in interest rate for timely repayment:

Rebate in interest rate has been allowed to beneficiaries who repaid loan timely, without any default.

iii) UDID No./UDID Enrolment No.:

In order to bring in transparency and support Government initiatives, UDID no./UDID enrolment no. has been made mandatory for Divyangjans for availing assistance under NDFDC scheme.

iv) Incentives to implementing agencies:

Incentive is provided to implementing agency to encourage more disbursement and good recoveries of loan.

v) Support for Awareness Creation:

Grants support is provided for awareness creation and market intervention measures.

vi) Simplification/Consolidation of schemes:

Various Schemes of the Corporation were revisited and consolidated into two schemes; i.e., an individual centric scheme known as 'Divyangjan Swablamban Yojana' and a group based scheme 'Vishesh Micro Finance Yojana'. Also, a new Guideline for Credit Based Funding was brought in, to enhance the outreach to persons with disabilities.

vii) Increase in upper limit of loan:

Upper loan limit has been enhanced from Rs. 25.0 lakh to Rs. 50.00 lakh.

ix) Enhancement of activities area:

Activities area under NDFDC scheme has been enhanced. Now, loan under NDFDC scheme can be extended for starting any activity contributing directly or indirectly in the income generation or helping PwD in their overall process of empowerment.

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## **Annexure-I**

### **Annexure referred to in reply to part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.239 for answer on 05.12.2023**

#### **NATIONAL DIVYANGJAN FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (Formerly National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation)**

The main objects to be pursued by the company on its incorporation are:

1. To promote economic developmental activities for the benefit of the handicapped persons.
2. To promote self-employment and other ventures for the benefit/economic rehabilitation of the handicapped persons.
3. To assist, subject to such income and/or economic criteria as may be prescribed by the Government from time to time, the handicapped individuals or groups of handicapped individuals by way of loans and advances for economically and financially viable schemes and projects.
4. To grant concessional finance in selected cases for the handicapped persons in the country in collaboration with Government Ministries/Deptts. State level to the extent of the budgetary assistance granted by the Government of India to the Company.
5. To extend loans to the handicapped for pursuing general/ professional/technical education for training at graduate and higher levels.
6. To assist in the up gradation of technical and entrepreneurial skills of handicapped persons for proper and efficient management of production units.
7. To set up training, quality control, process development, technology, common facility centres and other infrastructural activities for the proper rehabilitation/upliftment of the handicapped persons in support of their economic pursuits.
8. To assist the State level organizations to deal with the development of the handicapped persons by way of providing financial assistance and in obtaining commercial funding or by way of refinancing.
9. To work as an apex institution on the lines of National Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation for channelizing the funds through State Finance Corporations for the Handicapped or through corresponding Corporations authorized by State Govts./Boards set up by Union Government/State Government/ Union Territory Administrations and Voluntary Organizations. The NATIONAL DIVYANGJAN FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION will receive proposals for financial assistance through above mentioned organizations and sanction loans and margin money to the beneficiaries for disbursement through these organizations. The NATIONAL DIVYANGJAN FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION will also coordinate and monitor the schemes/ programmes implemented through authorized State Finance & Development Corporations/Boards/UT Administration and NGOs, financed by the Corporation.
10. To assist self-employed individuals/group of individuals or registered factories/ companies/co-operatives of disabled persons in marketing their finished goods and assist in procurement of raw materials.

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