

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.64
ANSWERED ON-04.12.2023

Steps/Schemes towards Access to Schools by Disabled Children

64. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken and schemes introduced by the Government to increase access to schools for disabled children;
- (b) the number of schools which have been approved as disabled friendly and the number of schools which have not been done so; and
- (c) the timeline to achieve disabled friendly status in every school of the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SMT. ANNPURNA DEVI)

(a) to (c) The Centrally sponsored Samagra Shiksha – is an integrated scheme for School Education of the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, covers children from pre-primary to senior secondary level, including children with special needs. Under Samagra Shiksha, apart from overall interventions of the scheme, there is a dedicated component for Inclusive Education for Children with Special Needs (CwSN) through which various provisions are made available for the educational needs of differently abled children such as, provision of aids, appliances, assistive devices & teaching learning materials (TLMs), transportation, escort and scribe allowances etc. The component support also includes annual block identification and assessment camps and stipend for differently abled girls etc for supporting access to schools and completion of their schooling.

Provision for barrier free access within schools has also been made available under the scheme through ramps with handrails and differently abled friendly toilets. As per UDISE+ 2021-22, 5,89,986 schools have ramps with handrails, 2,14,430 schools have differently abled friendly toilets for boys and 1,80,786 differently abled friendly toilets for girls respectively. Adequate provisioning of funds under Samagra Shiksha is made to the States/UTs based on their annual proposal under Annual Work Plan and Budget.

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