

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.343
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.09.2020

DIGITAL DEVICES FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED STUDENTS

343: SHRI E.T. MOHAMMED BASHEER:

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

- (a) whether the Government has evolved any programme of action on the development of digital devices for the differently abled students;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has entered into any MoU with other countries for the skill development and technology development of differently abled students; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Department implements a Research and Development programme under the Scheme for Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA) which *inter-alia* supports research on development/innovation in rehabilitation sector, which includes digital devices, for the benefit of Persons with Disabilities. Further, under Make in India and ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT initiative, Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities has recently developed its own indigenous prototype Smart Cane, a digital device, which is under extensive trial following which its in-house production will start.

(c) No, Sir. The Government has not entered into any MoU with other countries for the skill development and technology development of students with disabilities.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) above.
