

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.19
TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.02.2021**

Status Report on Accessibility

19. SHRI ASHOK MAHADEORAO NETE:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any status report regarding the accessibility of facilities to the physically handicapped in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details of the accessibility of primary, secondary and higher education to the physically handicapped?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)

(a) The Ministry does not have any comprehensive report on the status of accessibility of facilities to Divyangjan in the country. However, under Accessible India Campaign, 998 Central Government buildings have been made accessible. All 709 major Railway Stations have been provided with 07 accessibility features namely, ramps, toilets, signages, lifts, drinking water facilities and helpdesks, and 603 have been provided with accessible inter-platform transfer and marking of edges of platforms. All 35 international and 55 out of 69 domestic airports have been made accessible with features like ramps, accessible toilets and lifts with braille buttons and audio instructions and 9,032 buses made accessible and 40,984 buses made partially accessible, 95 Central Government websites and 584 State Government websites have also been made accessible under the said Campaign. In addition, State Governments of their own have also taken steps for providing accessible infrastructure and facilities for Divyangjan.

In terms of Section 40 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, the Central Government has notified the accessibility standards for public buildings, passenger buses, websites and documents in June, 2017. As per the provisions of the RPwD Act, all the existing public buildings are required to be made accessible by June, 2022. The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities and the State Commissioners are mandated to monitor implementation of the provisions of the Act including compliance of accessibility provisions.

(b) Department of School Education & Literacy and Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, the nodal Ministry for accessibility in the education sector, has provided following details:-

(i) The Government provides accessibility facilities (Ramps with Handrails) to the physically disabled Children with Special Needs (CWSN) from classes I to XII in all the Government and aided schools across the country under Inclusive Education for CWSN component of Samagra Shiksha scheme of Department of School Education & Literacy. Out of around 11.68 lakhs approx. Government and aided schools in the country, around 8.33 lakhs approx. Government and aided schools have barrier free accessibility (Ramps with handrails) for Children with Physically disability.

(ii) Advisory have been issued to all the higher educational institutions to provide barrier free environment.
