

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3225
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 16.03.2021

Welfare of Divyangjans

3225. MS. DIYA KUMARI:

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

- (a) the details of the current pension schemes and additional benefits that the Government provides for divyangjans and people suffering from mental ailments; and
- (b) the response received under the said schemes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)

(a) and (b) Relief to the persons with disabilities is a State subject by virtue of entry '9' of the State list of the Constitution of India. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments.

The Central Government through the Ministry of Rural Development implements the Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS), a component under the National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP). Under this Scheme, central assistance @ 300/- per month is provided to persons aged 18-79 years with severe or multiple disabilities and belonging to family living below poverty line as per the criteria prescribed by the Government of India. After attaining the age of 80 years, the pension amount is enhanced to Rs.500/- per month.

In addition to the payment of pension under IGNDPS, an ex-gratia amount of Rs. 1000/- has also been paid to 7.73 lakh existing beneficiaries of Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme in two equal installments of Rs. 500/- each under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), a special package announced for poor during COVID-19 lockdown.

The Central Government through the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) has enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 which came into force on 19.04.2017. The Act provides various rights and entitlements for persons with disabilities and mandates the appropriate Government to take measures to promote education, skill development, social security, health, rehabilitation and recreation for persons with disabilities so that they can enjoy their rights equally with others. The Act provides for reservation in seats in Government/ Government aided higher educational institutions and reservation in Government jobs as well as in allotment of land for housing, setting up of business etc. for persons with benchmark disabilities including people suffering from mental ailments.
