

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2438
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.08.2021**

Special Colleges for Blind, Deaf and Dumb

2438. SHRI P RAVINDHRANATH:

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

- (a) whether the Union Government is aware that blind, deaf and dumb Students are being struck down, after completing their schooling, owing to non-existence of adequate Special Colleges for Persons with Disabilities, in the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is having any proposal to establish Special College for blind, deaf and dumb students, under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), across the country, including the State of Tamil Nadu; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)

(a) to (c): The National Education Policy, 2020 focuses on continuity of common approach of equity and inclusion of persons with disabilities across school and higher education. Further, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 mandates reservation of not less than 5% seats in Government/Government aided higher educational institutions for persons with benchmark disabilities (disability of 40% or more) including persons with visual and hearing impairment.

This Ministry implements a scheme to provide financial assistance for existing deaf colleges in five regions of the country. There is no proposal in the Ministry for establishing special colleges for persons with visual impairment and persons with hearing impaired.

Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme of the Ministry, financial assistance is provided to special schools for persons with hearing/visual/intellectual disabilities to enable them to pursue higher education in colleges in an inclusive setup.
