

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2352
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 06.08.2024

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

2352 Smt. Kamaljeet Sehrawat:

Shri Tejasvi Surya:

Shri Chavda Vinod Lakhamshi:

Shri Gopal Jee Thakur:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) the measures taken by the Government to empower persons with disabilities;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to impart skill development training in order to make divyang people self-reliant;
- (c) the details of the initiatives taken by the Government for the upliftment of divyangjan and achievement thereof; and
- (d) the number of schemes covering them alongwith the total amount of financial assistance sanctioned, earmarked and utilised for the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(Shri B .L. Verma)

(a) & (c) The Government enacted Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 which came into force on 19.04.2017. The no. of disabilities has been increased from 7 to 21. The said Act provides rights and entitlements to PwDs, which, inter-alia, include right to equality, non-discrimination, protection from cruelty, exploitation, right to live with family and community, access to justice, accessibility in voting, legal capacity, legal guardianship, health, education, employment, skill development, arts, sports, recreation, culture and participation in decision making process.

Section 34 of the said Act provides for 4 % reservation in the government employment to the persons with benchmark (40% or above) disabilities. Further, Section 32 of the said Act provides 5% reservation in government or government aided higher educational institutions for persons with benchmark disabilities. Furthermore, Section 37 of the said Act ensures 5%

reservation in poverty alleviation and developmental schemes to persons with bench mark disabilities.

Though, relief to the disabled is a State subject by virtue of entry 9 of the State List of the Constitution of India, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments through its major schemes namely Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP), Scheme for Implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA) and Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) and Scholarship Schemes.

(b) Section 19(2) of the RPwD Act, 2016 provides for inclusion of person with disability in all mainstream formal and non-formal vocational and skill training schemes and programme. Department is implementing National Action plan for Skill Development of persons with skill Disabilities (NAP-SDP) to enhance skills of persons with disabilities in order to enable them to have gainful employment and become self-reliant and productive members of society. This Scheme was launched in March, 2015. Under this scheme, skill training is provided to the persons with disability through the Government and Non-Government Organizations, across the country.

Further, the Department launched PM-DAKSH-DEPwD Portal on September 2023 for effective implementation of NAP-SDP. This portal is a one-stop digital destination for PwDs, who need skilling and employment, and for Training organizations and Employers/job aggregators of PwDs. Under this portal, there are two modules:-

- i. Divyangjan Kaushal Vikas: Skill training is conducted for PwDs through the portal across the country.
- ii. (ii) Divyangjan Rozgar Setu: The platform is a bridge between PwDs and employers having jobs for PwDs. The platform provides geo- tagged based information on employment/earning opportunities within private companies as well as PwDs across India.

Furthermore, Department also signed MoU with various companies/Job-aggregators like Amazon. Youth4Jobs. Atypical Advantage Volvo. Neomotion to create and enhance employment opportunities for PwDs. During the last 3 years, 14,263 PwDs were benefited under the scheme.

(d) Though, relief to the disabled is a State subject by virtue of entry 9 of the State List of the Constitution of India, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments through its following major schemes:-

(i) Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliance (ADIP): Under ADIP Scheme, funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the eligible persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically

manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhancing their economic potential throughout the country. During the last three years, 880238 PwDs were benefitted under this Scheme.

(ii) Scheme for Implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA): Under this Scheme, assistance is provided to State Governments and autonomous organizations/Institutions under Central or State Government/various implementing agencies for various activities relating to the implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Major Components of Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA) are:-

(a) Creation of Barrier Free Environment for PwDs

(b) National Action Plan for Skill Development

(c) Accessible India Campaign (AIC)

(d) Unique Disability Identity Card

(iii) Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS):- Under the Scheme grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) for running the projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, aimed at enabling them to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels. During the last three years, 96,111 PwDs were benefitted under the Scheme.

(iv) Scholarship Schemes for Students with disabilities: Under this Scheme, the Government provides scholarships for students with disabilities such as Prematric (for classes IX & X), Post-matric (from class XI up to Post Graduate degree/diploma level), Top Class Education (Post graduate degree/diploma in notified Institutes), National Fellowship (M.Phil and PhD courses), National Overseas Scholarship (for Overseas education at P.G./Doctorate level). During the last three years, 1,12,345 PwDs were benefitted under the Scheme.

Further, the details of funds released under various schemes of the Department during the last three financial years is as under:-

(Amount in Rs. Crore)

Year	Financial Year 2021-22	Financial Year 2022-23	Financial Year 2023-24
Scheme	Actual Expenditure (AE)	Actual Expenditure (AE)	Actual Expenditure (AE)
ADIP	198.69	242.29	290.60
SIPDA	108.44	65.66	76.79
DDRS	100.89	114.69	129.97
Scholarship	120.25	145.00	130.46
