

Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1205

TO BE ANSWERED ON 11/02/2025

SUPPORT TO CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

1205. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is providing holistic support to children with special needs in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of schemes and initiatives that have been taken by the Government during the last two years in this regard; and
- (c) the details of such projects and sponsorship particularly in North-East?

ANSWER

Minister of State for Social Justice & Empowerment

(SHRI B.L. VERMA)

(a) to (c) Section 40 of the RPwD Act 2016 focuses on making public spaces including schools/parks etc. accessible; promoting inclusive education through accessible learning materials, ramps, etc. The National Education Policy 2020 advocates for inclusive education for children with disabilities. Programs under Samagra Shiksha, PM Shri, and PM POSHAN are designed to integrate children with special needs into mainstream schools.

The Government supports children with autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, and multiple disabilities through legal and financial aid.

The Central Government has Launched National Action Plan for Skill Development of PwDs (NAP-SDP) with an aim to enhance the skills of PwDs with an age of 15 and above.

Under the ADIP scheme, the Government provides financial assistance to PwDs, including children with special needs. Over the past two years (FY 2022-23 and FY 2023-24), 11,480 children with special needs in the North-East have benefited from the ADIP-SSA (ADIP-Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan) initiative.

DEPwD has launched single window, Cross Disability Early Intervention Centres (CDEICs) in its various national Institutes (NIs) and Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) to give focused attention to children in the age bracket of 0-6 years. Further, the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK), under National Health Mission is a health programme for adolescents, in the age group of 10-19 years.
