

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No:-1851
TO BE ANSWERED ON:- 11/03/2025

‘SPECIFIC LEARNING DISABILITIES IN ADULTS’

1851. Shri E Tukaram :

Will the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any committee has been formed for studying the Specific Learning Disabilities (SLDs) in Adults, if so, the details of the Committee;
- (b) the measures taken to ensure individuals with SLDs, who were adults when the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, was enacted, are issued disability certificates, given the lack of a diagnostic test for evaluating SLDs in adults;
- (c) whether the Ministry has decided to allocate fund for research for developing diagnostic test for SLDs in Adults, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Ministry has decided to appoint NIMHANS to develop a diagnostic test for SLDs in adults, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the number of individuals employed by the Union Government under Section 34 (1) (d) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (covering autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness) year-wise, department-wise and disability-wise for this section?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L. VERMA)

- (a) No such Committee has been formed by the D/o Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD).
- (b) The Department has notified the revised Guidelines for assessing the extent of specified disabilities. These guidelines will be used across all ages till such time until new scales are developed and validated for older children and adult.
- (c) The Ministry has allocated funds for research on developing a diagnostic test for Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD) in adults under the Research & Development (R&D) component of the SIPDA scheme. A project titled “Development of Computer-Based Screening Test for Adults with Specific Learning Disabilities” by National Institute for the Empowerment of

Persons with Intellectual Disabilities , Secunderabad has been approved for total project cost of ₹15.20 lakh.

- (d) DEPwD has not appointed NIMHANS for the stated purpose.
- (e) The section 34 of RPwD Act 2016 provides for reservation in government jobs for autism, intellectual disability, specific learning disability and mental illness, among others, as specified under the Section. As per available data, 389 persons of category specified under section 34 (1)(d) and(e) are employed in the Ministries/Departments of the Central Government.
