

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No:- 2020
TO BE ANSWERED ON:- 11/03/2025

‘EMPOWERMENT OF DIVYANGJANS’

†2020. Shri Ajay Bhatt:

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

- (a) the measures taken by the Government for empowerment of persons with State (Divyangjans);
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to impart skill development training to Divyangjans particularly in Uttarakhand;
- (c) the percentage of Divyangjans got employment after receiving the said training along with the details thereof; and
- (d) the initiatives taken by the Government for upliftment of Divyangjans along with the achievements made in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI B.L. VERMA)

(a) The Government enacted Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 which came into force on 19.04.2017. The number 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 benchmark 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 persons with disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP), Scheme for Implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA), Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) and Scholarship Schemes.

(b) & (c) Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities implements the National Action Plan for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (NAP-SDP). Under NAP-SDP, skill training is imparted to persons with disabilities in the age group of 15 to 59 years through various Government and Non-Government Organizations across the country, empanelled with the Department as training partners (ETPs). Under the NAP-SDP scheme, skill training is being

provided to the persons with disability through the Government and Non-Government Organizations across the country including State of Uttarakhand. It is a demand driven scheme and funds are released to empaneled training partners based on their proposals.

Till date, this Department has provided the skill training to 1.42 lakh PwDs at a cost of Rs. 156.94 crore. Out of these, 28000 PwDs have been placed in wage-employment/self-employment.

(d) Although 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 Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliance (ADIP):** Under ADIP funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the eligible persons with disabilities in procuring standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation. Various types of aids and assistive devices distributed to different types of disabilities are Motorized Tricycle, Wheelchair, Prosthesis and orthosis, Walking Stick, Accessible Smart Phones, Smart Cane, Low Vision Aids, Hearing Aids, Teaching Learning Material (TLM) Kits etc.

(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 activities relating to the implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Some of the 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) **Unique Disability Identity Card, and**
- (d) **Awareness Generation and Publicity Scheme.**

(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. During the last three years (2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24), 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 Pre-matric (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 (Ph.D. courses in Indian Universities) and National Overseas Scholarship (Masters Degree/ Ph.D in Foreign Universities/Institutes). During the last three years (2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24), 1,15,667 PwDs were benefitted under the Scheme.
