

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

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION No. *136
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29/07/2025

Representation of Divyangjans in Local Government

*136. Thiru Thanga Tamilselvan:
Dr. Ganapathy Rajkumar P:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to/has any proposal to bring out a Bill to provide representation to divyangjans in Local Government in the country on the lines and model of Tamil Nadu Government which recently passed a resolution in this regard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(Dr. VIRENDRA KUMAR)

- (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to part (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 136 raised by Thiru Thanga Tamilselvan and Dr. Ganapathy Rajkumar P, Hon'ble MPs regarding 'Representation of Divyangjans in Local Government' for answer on 29.07.2025

(a) to (c) The elections to local bodies such as Panchayats and Municipalities is a State Subject by virtue of entry 5 of the State List in the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India meaning individual States have the authority to legislate on this matter. The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments (1992) provide the States with the authority to legislate on local governance structures, including representation in rural and urban local bodies. The amendments require that seats in every panchayat/urban local bodies are reserved for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in proportion to their population in that particular area. Further, at least one-third of all seats including those reserved for SCs and STs must be reserved for women, ensuring significant female participation. In addition, the amendments authorize State legislatures to make provisions for reservation in favor of Backward Classes, if deemed necessary. Therefore, the provisions for political reservations for PwDs in local bodies are determined by state-specific laws, and there is no uniform national mandate.
