

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1406
TO BE ANSWERED ON - 09/12/2025

SUGAMYA BHARAT ABHIYAN

1406. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh:
Smt. Kamaljeet Sehrawat:
Shri Mahendra Singh Solanky:
Shri Khagen Murmu:
Shri Manoj Tiwari:
Shri Mukeshkumar Chandrakant Dalal:

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

- (a) the current status of accessibility assessments undertaken under the Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan, particularly with respect to public buildings, transportation systems and digital services;
- (b) the percentage of Central, State, and district-level Government buildings that currently comply with barrier-free standards;
- (c) whether any gaps have been identified in the accessibility features of the Central, State and district-level Government buildings; and
- (d) if so, the details of steps being taken by the Ministry to support States/UTs in upgrading remaining public infrastructure to meet accessibility norms, including timelines and performance indicators ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B L VERMA)

(a) to (d) Since 'Works, lands and buildings vested in or in the possession of the State' is a State subject, and as per Sections 41, 44 and 45 of The Rights Of Person with Disabilities Act, 2016, the appropriate government is responsible to take steps to ensure accessible built infrastructure, transport systems and accessible ICT for PwDs and is also responsible to conduct regular social

audits to ensure that different schemes meet accessibility requirements and these details are not being maintained centrally. To facilitate States/UTs, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) implements an Umbrella Scheme- Scheme for Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities (SIPDA) Act, 2016 with a sub-component - “Scheme for Creation of Barrier Free Environment” (CBFE Scheme) through which financial assistance is provided to State/UT Governments only on demand basis for creation of barrier free environment in existing government buildings and establishments as per receipt of compliant proposals.

In a view to facilitate Governments and other service providers in undertaking accessibility audits, DEPwD has also empanelled some accessibility auditors in both built environment and web/digital domains. As on date, DEPwD has empanelled sixty (60) accessibility auditors for built environment and sixteen (16) accessibility auditors for web accessibility. The services of these empanelled accessibility auditors can be directly availed by any one on mutually agreed terms and conditions, for conducting accessibility audits of both public and private infrastructures as per requirements.
