

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1411
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 09/12/2025

ISSUANCE OF UDID CARDS

1411. Dr. Vinod Kumar Bind:
Shri Devusinh Chauhan:

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

- (a) the current status of issuance of Unique Disability ID (UDID) cards in the country, including the total number of eligible persons yet to be covered;
- (b) whether any major challenges have been identified in achieving universal UDID coverage in various States and Union Territories;
- (c) if so, the details of corrective measures being taken by the Government to ensure timely issuance, verification and 100% saturation of UDID cards;
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any recent review or assessment of the functioning and service delivery of District Disability Rehabilitation Centers (DDRCs);
- (e) if so, the key observations or findings from such reviews, particularly regarding infrastructure, staffing, outreach and service utilisation;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to strengthen, modernise or expand the network of DDRCs; and
- (g) if so, the details of any planned initiatives in this regard ?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B. L. VERMA)

(a) As per the 2011 Census, there are about 2.68 crore persons with disabilities (PwDs) in India. Since the launch of the UDID project a total of 1,31,13,616 (as on 05.12.2025) UDID cards have been issued across the country by the hospitals authorised by the state/UT governments.

(b) Major challenges:

- (i) Shortage of medical experts to assess the disabilities of PwDs at the State/UT level,.
- (ii) Less number of authorised hospitals in the State/UT governments for issuance of UDID cards.
- (iii) Pendency of applications for UDID cards with hospitals.
- (iv) Lack of awareness among the PwDs.

(c) and (d) (i) Notification of revised disability assessment guidelines for assessment of Persons included under RPwD Act, 2016 was done on 12.03.2024 which provides for the provision of inclusion of private medical doctors in the medical board to cater to the shortage of specialist at the designated hospitals in the States/UTs.

(ii) Conducted 8 training programs on revised disability assessment guidelines with about 6000 medical professionals at various zones of the nation.

(iii) Regular training of the UDID Portal functionaries by the department.

(iv) Regular meeting by the senior officers of the department with the State/UT government for timely disposal of pending applications.

(e) The District Disability Rehabilitation Centers (DDRCs) are established and operated with the support of the State Governments and function under the overall supervision of the District Magistrate. Under the Scheme, the Central Government mainly provides financial assistance in the form of viability-gap support, while the day-to-day management, staffing arrangements, infrastructure support and operational activities fall within the responsibilities of the State Government and district administration. For the appraisal of the Scheme for its continuation in the forthcoming Finance Commission cycle, an impact evaluation study has

recently been undertaken. The study has brought out several findings including the contribution of DDRCs in providing district-level rehabilitation services, increasing local accessibility for persons with disabilities, facilitating early identification and intervention activities. The study report also shows the enabling role of DDRCs in strengthening linkages with district health and education systems and in improving awareness and outreach on disability-related services. Further, the report also shows that DDRCs largely function from government or hospital premises thus ensuring basic functionality. Further, outreach practices remain robust ensuring effective service delivery.

(f) and (g): The scheme's guidelines were revised incorporating strengthening and modernising efforts e.g. provision for more rehabilitation professionals/staff, improved facilities etc. Submission/acceptance of online proposals under DDRCs was started from FY 2024-25. Also, in July, 2025, a new dedicated online portal for submission and processing of proposals under DDRCs including DDRC has also been started.
