

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 232**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 02/12/2025

**ACCESSIBILITY OF SCHOOL CAMPUSES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

232. Shri Vishnu Dayal Ram:

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

- (a) whether all Government and private school campuses have been made accessible for persons with disabilities in line with the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016;
- (b) if not, the number and percentage of schools yet to be made accessible;
- (c) the roadmap for achieving total accessibility across schools and colleges; and
- (d) whether any special funds have been allocated for this purpose and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B L VERMA)

**(a) & (b)** No, Sir. Since Education, including construction and maintenance of school buildings, is primarily the responsibility of respective State/UT Governments and “works, lands and buildings” fall under the State List, ensuring accessibility in school infrastructure rests with the appropriate Government in accordance with Sections 41, 44 and 45 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016.

The Central Government remains committed to supporting accessibility in all schools . Through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme – Samagra Shiksha and PM-SHRI, financial assistance is provided to States/UTs for creating barrier-free access, including ramps, handrails, accessible toilets and other Inclusive Education (IE) interventions for Children with Special Needs (CwSN) in line with the RPwD Act, 2016.

As per Ministry of Education’s Unified District Information System for Education Plus (UDISE+) report , 2024-25, out of 14.71 lakh schools in the country, 11.64 lakh schools

(79.12%) have ramps, 8.08 lakh schools (54.92%) have ramps with handrails and 5.23 lakh schools (35.55%) have CwSN-friendly toilets.

**(c)** The Government has notified the "*Accessibility Code for Educational Institutions*" for schools and the "*Accessibility Guidelines and Standards for Higher Education Institutions*" for universities. These frameworks mandate strict adherence to cross-disability standards for new infrastructure and provide cost-effective retrofitting solutions for existing campuses, ensuring facilities like ramps, accessible restrooms, and assistive technologies are universally available.

**(d)** The Government supports States/UTs in the construction of CwSN-friendly infrastructure—such as ramps, ramps with handrails, and barrier-free toilets—through Samagra Shiksha and PM–SHRI scheme, based on their proposals placed before the Project Approval Board (PAB).

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities implements an Umbrella Scheme-Scheme for Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities (SIPDA) Act, 2016 under which, vide sub-scheme “Scheme for Creation of Barrier Free Environment” (CBFE Scheme) grants may be given on demand basis for creation of barrier free environment in existing government buildings including government schools, Universities and colleges campuses as per specific proposals received from States/UTs.

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