

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

Unstarred Question No.244

TO BE ANSWERED ON 01.12.2015

Upgrading Braille Presses

244. SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY:

WILL the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be please to state:

- (a) whether the Government is considering to set up/modernise/augment production capacity of the Braille Printing Press in the country
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) the details of the proposed locations where the said Braille printing press are likely to be set up, State-wise and the norms followed in the selection process.

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) to (c) The Government has approved the Central Sector Scheme of "support for establishment/modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille presses" for the benefit of visually challenged with effective from 2014-15. The objectives of the scheme are:

- (i) to establish new Braille Presses in the States where strong organizations are already present
- (ii) to establish small scale Braille printing units in Union Territories;
- (iii) to augment Braille printing capacity of modern Braille printing presses by adding printing infrastructure; and
- (iv) to modernize old Braille Presses using traditional and low speed printing equipment

The Government has released Grants of Rs.3.86 cr during 2014-15 and Rs.3.87 cr during 2015-16 (upto October, 2015) for establishment of new Braille presses, capacity augmentation and modernization of Braille presses. The details of the location (State-wise) is given in the attached **Annexure-I**. The norms for selection process are given in the attached **Annexure-II**.

Annexure-I

A STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.244 FOR 01.12.2015 REGARDING UPGARDING OF BRAILLE PRESSES

Sl.No.	Name of the Organization	Name of the State
	Establishment of Braille Press	
1.	Composite Regional Centre, Sundernagar	Himachal Pradesh
2.	Andhra Pradesh Viklangulara Coop Corpn, Hyderabad	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Directorate of Social Welfare, Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Raipur	Chhattisgarh
	Capacity augmentation of Braille press	
1.	National Institute for Visually Handicapped Regional Centre, Chennai	Tamil Nadu
	Modernization of Braille Press	
1.	Central Braille Press, National Institute for Visually Handicapped, Dehradun	Uttarakhand
2.	Rajasthan Netraheen Kalyan Sangh, Jaipur	Rajasthan
3.	Ramakrishna Regional Braille Press, Kolkata	West Bengal
4.	Mitra Jyoti Charitable Trust, Bangalore	Karnataka
5.	Telungana Viklangula Coop Corpn, Guntur	Telangana
6.	Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur	Chhattisgarh

A STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.244 FOR 01.12.2015 REGARDING UPGARDING OF BRAILLE PRESSES

1. Norms for Establishment of Braille press:-

- i) There should be no high speed computerized Braille press
- ii) 1500 Sqft area of own building with additional area of 400 sqft for storage
- iii) The State/UT concerned should have at least two running educational programmes covering school-age blind children, either in the form of Govt. recognized/funded residential schools or schools providing inclusive education to blind children under Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) or Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) or under Integrated Education for the Disabled at the Secondary Stage scheme (IEDSS)
- iv) Also in the case of State Government/UT Administration, there should be clear evidence of the existence of a strong organization working with the blind in the concerned area, such an organization could be a State-level association of/for the blind or a national blindness organization or its chapter/Branch in the area for minimum of five years.
- v) In the case of application originating from a voluntary organization, the applicant should have been in existence as a registered organization for the last five years and should be running educational programmes for the blind continuously for the last five years.
- vi) There should be a proper system of auditing of accounts in the case of Non-Governmental Organizations.

2. Norms for augmentation of Braille printing capacity

The Braille Presses established by the State Governments or a registered societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1986 or a charitable trust will be augmented. The norms for selection of Braille Presses for augmentation of Braille printing capacity shall be:

- i) It has successfully undertaken printing of school text books in Braille for at least five years;
- ii) It has the experience to operate high speed Braille printers having minimum speed of printing 1200 Braille pages per hours;
- iii) It has a separate building block or build area in which the Braille press is established;
- iv) It has additional built area of 400 sq ft. to install two Additional high speed Braille printing machines;
- v) It has a team comprising at least two proof readers, two Braille Editors, two copy holders, two Data Entry Operators and two Machine Operators on its strength;
- vi) It has proper arrangement for storage of paper, Braille books and spares machines; and
- vii) It has a proper system of maintaining and auditing of accounts.

3. Norms for modernization of Braille presses

Braille Press established by the State Governments or registered societies or charitable trusts under Societies Registration Act, 1986 shall be modernized. The norms of selection of Braille Presses for modernization shall be:-

- i) It has been existence for more than five years;
- ii) It has at least two small scale computerized Braille printers with minimum speed of printing 100 pages per hour or has an old Braille printing machine on which printing is done using Zinc plates;
- iii) It has one Braille Press Manager, One Machine Operator, one Data Entry Operator and one Proof Reader on its strength; and
- iv) It has proper system of maintaining an auditing of accounts.