

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2547
TO BE ANSWERED ON- 04/08/2026

SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPLIFTMENT OF DIVYANGJANS

2547. Shri Janardan Singh Sigriwal:

Will the Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is implementing various schemes and programmes for the empowerment, rehabilitation, education, skill development and socio-economic upliftment of Divyangjan in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated, released and utilised, the number of beneficiaries covered and assistive devices distributed in Bihar during the last five years, scheme-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken any special initiatives, awareness camps, assessment camps, accessibility projects, skill development programmes or distribution of assistive aids for the benefit of PwDs in the Maharajganj Lok Sabha Constituency of Bihar during the last five years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the number of camps organised, beneficiaries covered, aids and appliances distributed, projects sanctioned and funds released for the said constituency, block-wise and year-wise ?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI B. L. VERMA)

(a) and (b): Yes. The Government enacted Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 which came into force on 19.04.2017. The no. of disabilities has been increased from 7 to 21. The said Act provides rights and entitlements to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), which, inter alia, include right to equality, non-discrimination, protection from cruelty, exploitation, right to live with family and community, access to justice, accessibility in voting, legal capacity, legal guardianship, health, education, employment, skill development, arts, sports, recreation, culture and participation in decision making process.

Section 34 of the said Act provides for 4 % reservation in the government employment to the persons with benchmark (40% or above) disabilities. Further, Section 32 of the said Act provides 5% reservation in government or government aided higher educational institutions for persons with benchmark disabilities. Furthermore, Section 37 of the said Act ensures 5% reservation in poverty alleviation and developmental schemes to persons with benchmark disabilities.

Though, relief to the disabled is a State subject by virtue of entry 9 of the State List of the Constitution of India, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments, regarding educational and employment based support, through its major schemes namely Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP), Scholarship Schemes and Scheme for Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 (SIPDA). There are no State/ Union Territory-wise budgetary allocations. The schemes are demand driven and funds are disbursed as per actual demand.

The details of the Schemes are as under:

1. Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) :

Under the Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), financial assistance is provided to voluntary organizations to make available a range of services necessary for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities including early intervention, development of daily living skills, education and training. With a view to inclusion of persons with disabilities in the mainstream of society and actualizing their potential, the thrust is on education and training programmes. The funds released and number of beneficiaries covered in Bihar during last five financial years is as follows-

Financial Year	Amount (in Rs.)	Beneficiaries
2021-22	41,89,479	106
2022-23	33,54,015	69
2023-24	68,64,980	111
2024-25	61,27,679	139
2025-26	77,70,127	120

2. Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/ of Aids/Appliances (ADIP)

Scheme: Under Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP) Scheme, the funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the eligible persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhancing their economic potential across the country. The year-wise details of beneficiaries covered, assistive devices distributed, and funds utilized in Bihar over the last five years are as follows:

Year	Funds utilized (Rs.in Lakhs)	No. of beneficiaries covered	No. of Assistive devices distributed
2021-22	496.21	5951	12611
2022-23	1076.87	13143	24292
2023-24	2427.09	23912	36619
2024-25	785.36	5152	9047
2025-26	458.49	3148	5301

3. Scholarship Schemes for Students with Disabilities :

The Department is implementing the 'Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities'. The main objective of the scheme is to empower students with disabilities to continue their studies so that they can earn their livelihood and get a respectable place in the society as they face many obstacles related to physical, financial, psychological in continuing their studies and living a respectable life.

The scheme consists of the following six components :-

- Pre-matric (for classes IX and X).
- Post-matric (for classes XI to postgraduate degree/diploma).
- Higher education (for undergraduate and postgraduate degree/diploma in notified institutions of excellence in education).
- National Fellowship (for M.Phil and Ph.D. in Indian universities).
- National Overseas Scholarship (for postgraduate degree/doctorate from foreign universities).
- Free coaching (for government recruitment examinations and entrance examinations to technical and professional courses).

Details of funds released and beneficiaries served in the State of Bihar during the last five years is as under:

(Amount in ₹ Crore)

Sr.No.	Year	Amount	Beneficiaries
1	2021-22	8.59	2278
2	2022-23	5.29	1257
3	2023-24	11.89	1441
4	2024-25	7.72	904
5	2025-26	18.97	2066

4. Scheme for Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 (SIPDA):

Following are the main sub-schemes/components under the umbrella SIPDA Scheme:

Creation of barrier free environment for persons with disabilities (CBFE)/Accessible India Campaign (AIC)

1. National Action Plan for Skill Development for PWD
2. Unique Disability Identification (UDID) Project
3. Awareness Generation and Publicity (AGP)
4. Cross Disability Early Intervention Centre
5. Project for Development of Accessible Learning Materials (DALM Project) as a project through NIEPVD, Dehradun.

(4) (i) Creation of Barrier-Free Environment for Persons with Disabilities (CBFE) / Accessible India Campaign (AIC)

Under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016, ensuring accessible infrastructure, transport, and ICT is primarily a State responsibility. To support this, the Central Government provides demand-based financial assistance through the Creation of Barrier-Free Environment (CBFE) sub-scheme under SIPDA.

4 (ii) National Action Plan for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (NAP-SDP)-

SKILL: The Department implements the National Action Plan for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (NAP-SDP), which provides skill development opportunities to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in the age group of 15 to 59 years. The objective of the scheme is to enhance their skills for gainful employment and to facilitate their transition towards self-reliance and economic participation. The skill training is provided through Government and non-Government organizations empanelled as Training Partners with the Department.

4 (iii) Unique Disability Identification (UDID) :-

The Unique ID for Persons with Disabilities project is being implemented to create a national database of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and issue a Unique Disability Identity Card (UDID) to each individual. This initiative ensures transparency, efficiency and ease in delivering government benefits to PwDs while maintaining uniformity across regions.

4 (iv) Awareness Generation & Publicity (AGP) Scheme:

Under the Awareness Generation & Publicity (AGP) Scheme, the Department undertakes awareness generation, sensitization, and outreach initiatives to promote rights, entitlements, accessibility, and socio-economic inclusion for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) across the country through National Institutes (NIs), Composite Regional Centres (CRCs), and other eligible organizations.

4 (v) Cross Disability Early Intervention Centres:

These centres carry out screening and identification, provide therapeutic and counselling services for various types of disabilities and make provision for early schooling for children in the age group of 0-6 years.

4 (vi) Project for Financial Support for Development of Accessible Learning Materials (DALM Project) (Erstwhile Braille Press Scheme)

The scheme of Support for Establishment/ Modernization/ Capacity Augmentation of Braille Presses was launched with the objective to facilitate the production of Braille Textbooks for free distribution to children with visual impairments studying in various schools in the country.

5. National Institutes (NIs): There are nine National Institutes (NIs) working under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), specializing in different kinds of disabilities which conduct various courses in the field of disabilities, provide rehabilitation services to Persons with Disabilities and undertake Research and Development. Thirty Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) have also been approved in various States/UTs as outreach Centres/extended arms of the National Institutes under the Department. CRCs provide rehabilitation services to all categories of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), train rehabilitation professionals, workers and functionaries, undertake programmes of education and skill development and create awareness amongst parents and the community regarding needs and rights of PwDs.

Additionally, funds were released for awareness generation and outreach activities in Bihar. The details of funds released are as follows:

Financial Year	Name of Event/Activity	Organization	Amount Released (₹)
2024-25	Organizing training programmes and celebration of Calendar Day Events during 2024-25	CRC Patna	2,55,000
2024-25	Awareness Generation-cum-Sensitization Programme on the Role & Responsibilities of CRC Patna in catering to PwDs in Bihar and adjoining areas	CRC Patna	2,25,225
2025-26	Organizing Divya Kala Mela/ Divya Kala Shakti at Patna, Bihar from 23–31 August 2025	NDFDC	59,73,750

(c) and (d): The assessment and distribution camps are actively organized at the district level to provide aids and assistive devices to eligible persons with disabilities.

The Maharajganj Lok Sabha Constituency in Bihar comprises Siwan and Saran districts. Under the ADIP Scheme, camps have been organized in these districts for the distribution of aids and assistive devices. The year-wise details of camps held, beneficiaries covered, devices distributed, and funds utilized in Siwan and Saran districts over the last five years are as follows:

Siwan District:

Year	No. of Camps Held	No. of Beneficiaries Covered	No. of Devices Distributed	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)
2021-22	0	0	0	0
2022-23	2	183	314	12.81
2023-24	7	2200	3697	212.89
2024-25	3	103	161	8.48
2025-26	0	0	0	0

Saran District:

Year	No. of Camps Held	No. of Beneficiaries Covered	No. of Devices Distributed	Funds Utilized (Rs. in Lakhs)
2021-22	0	0	0	0
2022-23	3	307	480	24.75
2023-24	19	5046	6828	453.56
2024-25	13	163	276	26.40
2025-26	1	110	113	13.20
