

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3157
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
WEBSITES FOR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED PERSONS
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether steps are being taken by the Government to develop websites for differently-abled persons;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON)

(a), (b) and (c) Yes Sir. Guidelines have been issued by Government in 2009 to make government websites accessible to all including persons with disabilities.

A redesigned accessible website of the Ministry was launched on 5th January 2010, (www.socialjustice.nic.in). Some other Ministries have also made their websites accessible. To encourage development of "accessible" websites by others, the Ministry has instituted a new category in its Scheme of National Awards for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under which three awards – one each for government, public and private sector websites will be given every year for the best "accessibility" features.

Minister (SJ&E) has requested Chief Ministers of States/Union Territories and Union Ministers to make websites of various Government Departments and Organisations accessible. The State Governments are also being provided Central Assistance for making their official websites accessible.