

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:252  
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2011  
SCHOOLS FOR VISUALLY HANDICAPPED CHILDREN  
J Helen Davidson;Sahu Shri Chandulal Chandu Bhaiya

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

- (a) the number of Visually Handicapped Children and Special schools for them in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the quantum of funds allocated for the education of such children in the country, State-wise/Union Territory-wise during each of the last three years; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to protect and safeguard the interests of such children in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(SHRI MUKUL WASNIK)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement to be laid on the table of the House in answer to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.252 for 14.11.2011 by Smt. J. Helen Davidson and Shri Chandu Lal Sahu, Member of Parliament regarding "Schools for Visually Handicapped Children"

(a) to (c) As per information provided by the Ministry of Human Resource Development, State-wise number of Visually Impaired Children of 6-14 years age group identified under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA) and enrolled under SSA are at Annexure-I. The Scheme of Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) aims to ensure that every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided elementary education in an inclusive environment. The allocation of funds for inclusive education of children with special needs under SSA during the last three years, State-wise, is at Annexure-II.

The Central Government does not run Special Schools for Visually Impaired children. However, under the Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) of the Ministry, grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organisations for, inter alia, running Special Schools for Visually Impaired. A statement of State-wise number of Schools for Visually Impaired children for which grant-in-aid has been given during the last three years under DDRS is at Annexure-III.

Further, the Scheme of inclusive education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) has been launched from the year 2009-10. This Scheme replaced the earlier Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) and provides assistance for the inclusive education of the disabled children in classes IX-XII. The details of grants released, State-wise, under the erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) & the present Scheme of Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) during the last three years is at Annexure-IV.

Under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances(ADIP Scheme), as per the ADIP-SSA activity, assistive aids and appliances are distributed to the children below 14 years of age and attending school under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan scheme of the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The coverage under the ADIP-SSA activity for Visually Impaired Children during the last three years is as follows:

Financial No. of Visually Impaired Value of Aids and  
Year Children benefited appliances(Rs. In lakhs)

2007-08	1311	3.77
2008-09	2449	9.87
2009-10	2595	16.68