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**THIRTY-SEVENTH REPORT**  
**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND**  
**EMPOWERMENT**  
**(2008-2009)**

**(FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE**  
**AND EMPOWERMENT**

**Action taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Scheme of Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances" (ADIP) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 21.10.2008**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 21.10.2008**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**  
**NEW DELHI**  
**August, 2008 /Sravana, 1930 (Saka)**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
(2008-2009)**

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**THIRTY-SEVENTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI  
August, 2008/Sravana, 1930 (Saka)**

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE  
AND EMPOWERMENT (2008-2009)**

**Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS  
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Mahaveer Bhagora
3. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
4. Shri Loganathan Ganesan
5. Shri Haribhau Jawale
6. Shri Bhai Lal
7. Shri Tek Lal Mahato
8. Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam
9. Shri Kailash Meghwal
10. Shri Vasantryao J. More
11. Shri Rupchand Murmu
12. Shri Jual Oram
13. Shri Ram Chandra Paswan
14. Shri Rabindar Kumar Rana
15. Dr. R. Senthil
16. Smt. Pratibha Singh
17. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
18. Smt. Krishna Tirath
19. Smt. Usha Verma
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

**MEMBERS  
RAJYA SABHA**

22. Shri Silvius Condpan
23. Shri Mahmood A. Madani
24. Shri Ahmad Sayeed Malihabadi
25. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
26. Dr. Radhakant Nayak
27. Shri Abdul Wahab Peevee
28. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
29. Shri Veer Singh
30. Ms. Anusuiya Uikey
31. Shri Nand Kishore Yadav

## **SECRETARIAT**

1. Dr. (Smt.) P.K. Sandhu - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sarin - Joint Secretary
3. Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Deputy Secretary
4. Shri Vanlalruata - Executive Officer

## **INTRODUCTION**

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty-seventh Report on the Action taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Scheme of Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances" (ADIP) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

2. The Twenty-seventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha and also laid in Rajya Sabha on September 6, 2007. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment furnished their replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report on June 25, 2008. The Report was considered and adopted by the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment at their sitting held on August 11, 2008.

3. An analysis of the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixteenth Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) is given in **Appendix**.

4. For facility of reference recommendations/observations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report.

5. The Committee place on record their appreciation for the valuable assistance rendered to them by the officials of the Lok Sabha Secretariat attached to the Committee.

**New Delhi:**  
**11 August, 2008**  
**20 Sravana, 1930 (Saka)**

**SUMITRA MAHAJAN,**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Social Justice and Empowerment**

## REPORT

1.1 This Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/Recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report of the Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Scheme of Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of Aids and Appliances" (ADIP) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

1.2 The Twenty-seventh Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2007 and also laid in Rajya Sabha on 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2007. It contained 14 observations/recommendations. Replies of the Government in respect of all the observations/recommendations have been received and are categorised as under:

- (i) Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:  
  
Paragraph Nos. 1.49, 1.50, 1.53, 1.57, 1.58 and 1.62  
  
(Total 6 – Chapter II)
- (ii) Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government:  
  
Paragraph Nos. 1.52, 1.56 and 1.60  
  
(Total 3 – Chapter III)
- (iii) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter I:  
  
Paragraph Nos. 1.54, 1.59 and 1.61  
  
(Total 3 – Chapter IV)
- (iv) Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature:  
  
Paragraph Nos. 1.51 and 1.55  
  
(Total 2- Chapter V)

1.3 The Committee desire that action taken notes on the observations/recommendations contained in chapter – I and final replies in respect of the observations/recommendations

contained in Chapter – V of the Report may be furnished to them at the earliest and in any case not later than three months of the presentation of the Report.

1.4 The Committee will now deal with some of the replies received from the Government which need reiteration or merit comment.

A. Direct Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs)

Recommendation (Sl.No. 6, Para No. 1.54)

1.5 The Committee had been informed that District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) were managed through a District Management Team (DMT) and are meant to provide longer counselling, generate awareness and also help in issue of disability certificates. At present 125 DDRCs were working for the disabled persons in the country. However, the Committee found that there were some problems in the DDRCs in terms of manpower availability. The Committee felt that unless such problems were taken care of and DDRCs strengthened with required number of rehabilitation professionals, these Centres would not be able to fulfill their assigned job. The Committee had desired that for smooth functioning of DDRCs, their problems in terms of availability of manpower should be taken care of on priority basis so that they could render the desired services for the optimal benefit of disabled persons. The Committee also recommended that District Disabilities Rehabilitation Centres should be opened in each district to provide counselling, generate awareness and mitigate the problems of disabled persons.

1.6 In their reply, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have stated that the District Disability Rehabilitation Scheme is under revision.

**1.7 The Committee had noted that District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs); set up to provide counselling, generate awareness about the programmes and for help in the issue of disability certificates; were facing problems in terms of availability of manpower. Consequently, the Committee had desired that for their efficient functioning problems being faced by DDRCs on this account should be solved on priority basis. It was also urged that DDRCs should be opened in each district so as to take care of problems of the disabled persons expeditiously. The Committee are, however, not**



satisfied with the reply of the Government that the District Disability Rehabilitation Scheme is under revision. The Committee feel that the Ministry should have indicated the measures being contemplated by them to strengthen the DDRCs and what more needs to be done for their smooth and effective functioning. Considering the importance of the role being played by DDRCs as an implementing agency of the ADIP Scheme, the Committee again urge upon the Government to provide adequate manpower to DDRCs and also open DDRCs in all districts during the current Plan period, so that the problems of disabled persons could be efficiently tackled.

B. Awareness Generation Camps.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 11, Para No. 1.59)

1.8 The Committee had noted that the implementing agencies of ADIP scheme organize camps in various parts of the country for distributing assistive devices among the disabled persons. During the year 2004-05, the National Institutes and ALIMCO held 375 and 489 camps whereas in 2005-06 there were 318 and 410 camps respectively. However, the Ministry had no information about the number of camps held State-wise. Also no separate camps were organized to generate awareness among the disabled persons for using artificial limbs and appliances. Further, follow up camps to distribute equipments to the left over disabled persons were seldom organized and that in the North East States coverage was very poor as only 39 districts in 2004-05 and 47 districts in 2005-06 were covered out of the total 76 districts. Keeping in view the importance of the scheme, the Committee had desired that it should be given publicity more extensively and vigorously through both print and electronic media like TV/Radio Channels, in vernacular print media, and by distribution of pamphlets etc. The Committee, also recommended that the implementing agencies of the scheme should organize more camps specifically for generating awareness regularly and distribute aids and appliances to all the needy persons particularly in remote and inaccessible areas with special thrust on uncovered/less covered areas/districts. Follow up camps should also be organized invariably so that the persons who could not get the assistive devices in the camps organized earlier, could be provided with such equipments as per their needs.

1.9 In their reply, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have stated that the suggestion has been noted.

1.10 The Committee had expressed concern that adequate steps are not taken by the Ministry to give publicity through print and electronic media about the aims and objectives of the ADIP scheme. Also, separate camps are not organized to generate awareness among the disabled persons for using artificial limbs and appliances and about their availability particularly in remote and inaccessible places. The Committee had, therefore, desired that suitable steps need to be

taken by the Ministry. In response, the Ministry have just noted the suggestion and have not indicated any specific steps taken/being taken in this connection. The Committee, therefore reiterate that the Government ought to impress upon all agencies entrusted with implementation of the ADIP scheme to make sincere efforts to organize more field camps periodically particularly in uncovered areas for generating awareness about the scheme so that disabled persons would come forward in large numbers and get assistive devices to suit their needs and comfort. The Committee further desire the Government to obtain State-wise data of camps organized during last three years along with the details of beneficiaries.

## **C. Monitoring**

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 1.61)

1.11 The Committee were constrained to note that the Ministry had not deputed any official/team for inspections in recent years. Also no target date had been provided for carrying out inspections. The Committee felt that in the absence of inspections by the Ministry and the monitoring agencies, effective implementation of the scheme can not be ensured. The reason given by the Ministry that the responsibility of inspections has been entrusted to the State Governments is not convincing at all as it is for the nodal Ministry to ensure effective implementation of the scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommended that a Monitoring Committee might be set up in the Ministry to ensure regular and strict monitoring of the implementation of ADIP scheme in a concerted and focused manner. The Ministry should also strengthen its monitoring mechanism and send the inspection teams periodically to monitor the implementation of the scheme particularly in North-Eastern States.

1.12 The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in their reply, have stated that the inspections are carried by the Ministry through its Institutes, regional centres, Composite Rehabilitation Centres etc.

**1.13 In response to the recommendation of the Committee for setting up of a Monitoring Committee in the Ministry for ensuring regular and strict monitoring of the implementation of the ADIP scheme in a concerted and focused manner, the Ministry have stated that inspections are carried through its Institutes, Regional Centers, Composite Rehabilitation Centres etc. The reply indicates that the Government is not serious towards the concern expressed by the Committee. The Committee are of the view of that setting up of a Monitoring Committee would certainly ensure effective implementation of the scheme resulting in furthering the welfare of the target group. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that a Monitoring Committee may be set up in the Ministry to ensure regular and effective monitoring of the implementation of the scheme in a focused and concerted manner. Inspection teams may also be sent periodically to all the States, particularly in the North-Eastern States for on the spot assessment and to report their findings to the Monitoring Committee.**

## CHAPTER II

### **OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT**

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No.1 Para No. 1.49)**

2.1 The main objective of the Scheme of 'Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances' (ADIP) is to assist the needy physically handicapped persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured modern and standard aids and appliances, thus alleviating the effects of disability and helping them in their social, economic and psychological rehabilitation. The Committee, however, regret to observe that out of about 22 lakhs disabled persons in the country, only about eight lakh have been benefited under ADIP Scheme so far, which is an abysmally low coverage. The Committee are not happy with this state of affairs as it indicate the lack of dedication and causal approach on the part of the Ministry in handling the core issue of the social, economic and psychological rehabilitation of the handicapped people in the country. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry should prepare an action plan, in consultation with the implementing agencies of ADIP Scheme, to increase the coverage of beneficiaries so that the persons with disabilities could become more productive, their economic potential enhanced and the quality of their lives improved.

#### **Reply of the Government**

2.2 An action plan for covering more beneficiaries through increased participation of existing NGOs, encouragement of new NGOs and involvement of National Institutes and ALIMCO has been formulated and a new procedure has been circulated to all the implementing agencies. Proposal for enhanced budget allocation for the year 2008-09 has been sent to the Planning Commission.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008).

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No.2 Para No. 1.50)**

2.3 The Committee are surprised to find that State/UT-wise targets are not fixed under the ADIP scheme by the funded agencies. Also the disability-wise information is not available with the Ministry. The argument put forth by the Ministry that targets are assessed by the number of proposals submitted by implementing agencies and that the progress of the work done by the implementing agencies is monitored through submission of utilization certificates at the time of release of the second installment is not convincing at all. In the absence of any disability-wise data the Committee feel that the Ministry would not be in a position to fix the targets for the scheme and to monitor its implementation effectively. The Committee, therefore, recommended that the Ministry should take steps to maintain the disability-wise data and also to impress upon the

funded agencies to fix State/UT-wise targets under ADIP scheme vigorously so that the implementation of the scheme could be assessed properly.

#### Reply of the Government

2.4 The disability wise data is available from census, 2001. The implementing agency would be impressed upon to fix targets and achieve them.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008).

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 5 Para No. 1.53)**

2.5 The Committee has been given to understand that the ADIP scheme is mainly implemented by the NGOs as they are very close to the people and have ability to reach and interact directly with the needy groups. However, the Committee find that NGOs are not encouraged by some State Governments particularly in North Eastern States. Consequently, the Ministry are facing difficulty in implementing the scheme in far flung and remote areas. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to encourage the NGOs to operate in the North Eastern States and in remote/far flung areas by giving them so incentives and by allowing them a substantial role in implementing the scheme with proper accountability so that the benefits could reach the uncovered areas. The Committee also desire that inexperienced NGOs should be provided technical support through National Institutes and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres.

#### Reply of the Government

2.6 The NGOs are being encouraged to operate in North-Eastern States. Wherever sought, the ALIMCO/Nis and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres liaise with NGOs for holding ADIP camps. The big NGOs have also been requested to cover at least 10 district in remote and uncovered areas.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008).

#### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 9 Para No.1.57)**

2.7 ALIMCO is the largest manufacturer of artificial limbs and rehabilitation aids for disabled persons. However, according the Ministry more research is required in the field of aids and appliances especially by ALIMCO to enhance the comfort and convenience to the users. The Committee, therefore, desire that the ALIMCO and other Research Institutes should be given adequate financial assistances as well as required infrastructure and qualified manpower to take up the task of research in the field of aids

and appliances by using advanced technology and to ensure availability of aids and appliance to the beneficiaries at a affordable price.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.8 The ALIMCO in collaboration with the National Institutes in the Ministry and other experts has initiated research in the fields of aids and appliances. A center in ALIMCO in this regard has been activated.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 10 Para No.1.58)**

2.9 Disability being a psychological injury and trauma particularly in cases of accidents, there is an urgent need for psychological rehabilitation of such persons by building a system of counseling and supporting them over a longer period of time to prepare them to face the reality. However, the Committee note with dismay that there is no specific component for psychological rehabilitation under the ADIP scheme. The Committee, therefore, urge upon the Government that this particular aspect of psychological rehabilitation of disabled persons should also be given priority and included in the scheme at the earliest.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.10 This will be incorporated in the Scheme at the time of revision.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008)

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 14 Para No. 1.62)**

2.11 The Committee find that the Government had constituted a Standing Committee for ADIP in April, 2003. The Committee had made some suggestions which included circulating the specifications of appliances in common use, inclusion of spectacles and low vision aid under the ADIP scheme, ensuring availability of infrastructure with agencies conducting more than 50 camps in a year, surprise inspection by monitoring agencies, conduction a nation wide survey on usage of aids and appliances, strengthening of research and development of appliances and promotion of local institutes in unserved districts. The Committee feel sad to note that they have not been intimated about the action taken by the Government on the recommendations of the Standing Committee on ADIP, set up in 2003, so far. The Committee, therefore, desire the Government to implement the recommendations/suggestions of the Standing Committee on ADIP sincerely and apprise the Committee of the precise action taken thereon at the earliest.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.12 The point wise position in respect of advise given by the Standing Committee are submitted below:

1. The Scheme provides that the Aids and Appliances supplied must be ISI. The Scheme has been circulated.
2. The low vision aids including hand-held stand, lighted and unlighted magnifiers, speech synthesizers or Braille attachments for computers have been included under the Scheme.
3. One of the points at the time of recommendation by the State Government / National Institutes is regarding availability of infrastructure with the implementing agencies.
4. As and when necessary the surprised inspection are got carried out through officers of the Ministry and National Institutes.
5. A nation wide survey on use of aids and appliances has since been conducted.

Under the S&T Mission mode, this Ministry sanctions grants to the Industries and Researchers for design development and research work for making suitable high quality and cost effective aids and appliances to enhance opportunities for persons with disabilities for employment, easier living, communication, recreation, mobility and integrating in the society through education and skill development. The ALIMCO and other National Institutes have been requested to tie-up with reputed institutes for ensuring availability of modern aids and appliances to the beneficiaries at affordable price.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008).

## CHAPTER – III

### Recommendation (Sl. No. 4 Para No. 1.52)

3.1 The Ministry have disbursed grants in aid of Rs. 55 crore, Rs. 63 crore and Rs. 58 crore to implementing agencies like Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), National Institutes and NGOs during 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 respectively. Keeping in view the large number of needy disabled persons the funds allocated for providing assistive devices to them, are inadequate. The Committee, therefore, recommend that budgetary allocation under ADIP scheme may be enhanced in accordance with the number of disabled persons in need of assistance so that maximum number of disabled persons could avail the benefits of the scheme. The Committee further find that the allocation and release of funds under the scheme are not made State/UT-wise, in proportion to the number of persons with disabilities in respective States. Also the information regarding number of beneficiaries covered State/UT wise is not available with the Ministry. The Committee also observe that a large number of persons with various kinds of disabilities have not been benefited so far and some areas like Jammu & Kashmir and North East have been left uncovered. The Committee, therefore, recommend that funds may be allocated State-wise, in proportion to the number of persons with disabilities in respective States achieved. The Committee also desire that number of beneficiaries covered State/UT wise be complied so that the impact of the scheme could be assessed and regional imbalance in coverage may be rectified.

### Reply of the Government

3.2 Proposal for enhanced budget allocation for the year 2008-09 has been sent to the Planning Commission. The ALIMCO and a few NGOs have been sanctioned funds for covering areas like J&K and North-East. Data of beneficiaries submitted by the NGOs/implementing agencies will be complied and analyzed to assess the impact of the scheme and the coverage.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008).

### Recommendation (Sl. No. 8 Para No. 1.56)

3.3 The Committee note that there are seven National Institutes namely National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad; Institute for the Physically Handicapped, Delhi; Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai; National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack; National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun; National Institute for Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata and National Institute for Empowerment of persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai in the country for rehabilitation, research, clinical and therapeutic services to the disabled persons. These Institutes are mainly for persons who are suffering from visual, hearing mental, orthopedic and multiple disabilities. Considering



that a large number of persons are suffering from various types of disabilities, the Committee feel that the number of National Institutes is not sufficient to provide services to them to the desired extent. The Committee, therefore, recommends that more National Institutes for disabled persons may be set up in the country. The Committee also recommends that Regional Institutes for various types of disabilities, particularly for the persons suffering from multiple disabilities, may be opened in the States for their benefit.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.4 The National Institutes under the Ministry deal with a particular disability. These Institutes have regional centers to provide services in different parts of the country. Efforts are being made to strengthen these centers so that they may render required services. Further, five Composite Rehabilitation Centres have been established to provide services to the persons with all types of disabilities. Further, services are being provided through DDRCs and a large number of NGOs supported by the Ministry. There is a proposal to gradually create DDRCs in every district. National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD) in Chennai has recently been started to cater to the needs of persons with multiple disabilities.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008).

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 12 Para No. 1.60)**

3.5 The Committee find that the evaluation study on ADIP scheme has been entrusted to M/s Santek Consultant Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi in December, 2004. However, their Report is still awaited. The Committee desire that the Government should emphasize upon M/s Santek Consultant Pvt. Ltd., to expedite the submission of the evaluation Report to the Government so that necessary remedial measures could be taken by them.

### **Reply of the Government**

3.6 The report has been received.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008)

## CHAPTER – IV

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 6 Para No. 1.54)**

4.1 The Committee have further been informed that District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) are managed through a District Management Team (DMT) and are meant to provide longer counseling, generate awareness and also help in issue of disability certificates. At present 125 DDRCs are working for the disabled persons in the country. However, the Committee find that there are some problems in the DDRCs in terms of manpower availability. The Committee feel that unless such problems are taken care of and DDRCs strengthened with required number of rehabilitation professionals, these Centres would not be able to fulfill their assigned job. The Committee desire that for smooth functioning of DDRCs, their problems in terms of availability of manpower should be taken care of on priority basis so that they could render the desired services for the optimal benefit of disabled persons. The Committee also recommend that District Disabilities Rehabilitation Centres should be opened in each district to provide counseling, generate awareness and mitigate the problems of disabled persons.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.2 The District Disability Rehabilitation Scheme is under revision.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para 1.7 of Chapter-I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 11 Para 1.59)**

4.3 The Committee note that the implementing agencies of ADIP scheme organize camps in various parts of the country for distributing assistive devices among the disabled persons. During the year 2004-05, the National Institutes and ALIMCO held 375 and 489 camps whereas in 2005-06 there were 318 and 410 respectively. However, the Ministry have no information about the number of camps held State-wise. Also no separate camps were organized to generate awareness among the disabled persons for using artificial limbs and appliances. Further, follow up camps to distribute equipments to the left over disabled persons are seldom organized and that in the North East States coverage is very poor as only 39 districts in 2004-05 and 47 districts in 2005-06 were covered out of the total 76 districts. Keeping in view the importance of the scheme, the Committee desire that it should be given publicity more extensively and vigorously through both print and electronic media like TV/Radio Channels, in vernacular print media, and by distribution of pamphlets etc. The Committee, also recommend that the implementing agencies of the scheme should organize more camps specifically for

generating awareness regularly and distribute aids and appliances to all the needy persons particularly in remote and inaccessible areas with special thrust on uncovered/less covered areas/districts. Follow up camps should also be organized invariably so that the persons who could not get the assistive devices in the camps organized earlier, could be provided with such equipments as per their needs.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.4 Suggestion has been noted.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M. No. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para 1.10 of Chapter-I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 13 Para 1.61)**

4.5 The Committee is constrained to note that the Ministry have not deputed any official/team for inspections in recent years. Also no target date has been provided for carrying out inspections. The Committee feel that in the absence of inspections by the Ministry and the monitoring agencies, effective implementation of the scheme can not be ensured. The reason given by the Ministry that the responsibility of inspections has been entrusted to the State Governments is not convincing at all as it is for the nodal Ministry to ensure effective implementation of the scheme. The Committee, therefore, recommend that a Monitoring Committee may be set up in the Ministry to ensure regular and strict monitoring of the implementation of ADIP scheme in a concerted and focused manner. The Ministry should also strengthen its monitoring mechanism and send the inspection teams periodically to monitor the implementation of the scheme particularly in North-Eastern States.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.6 The inspections are carried by the Ministry through its Institutes, regional centres, Composite Rehabilitation Centres etc.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M NO. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Para 1.13 of Chapter-I of the Report)

## **CHAPTER – V**

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 3 Para 1.51)**

5.1 The Committee note that assistive devices are provided free of cost to persons having income up to Rs. 6,500 per month and at 50 percent concession to persons with income between Rs. 6,501 and Rs. 10,000. The maximum admissible amount for purchase of a device is Rs. 6,000. The benefit of the scheme can be availed of again after a period of three years. Keeping in view the high cost of disability devices due to advancement in technology and rise in price index, the Committee desire that Government should examine the feasibility of increasing the maximum amount fixed for purchase of an assistive device.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.2 The Planning Commission has advised that the income ceiling for availing assistance under ADIP Scheme should be raised to Rs. 10,000/- per month. Moreover, the ceiling for purchase / fitting of aids and appliances should also be enhanced to Rs. 25,000/-. This will be taken into account when scheme is revised.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M NO. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008)

### **Recommendation (Sl. No. 7 Para 1.55)**

5.3 The Committee also find that States' Welfare Secretaries as well as Commissioners for Disabilities of all States/UTs have been repeatedly requested to promote District Red Cross Societies for implementing the ADIP Scheme in their States. However, the Committee note with surprise that all the States/UTs have not promoted District Red Cross Societies in their respective States so far. Also no proposal has come from North Eastern States for setting up of District Red Cross Societies. The Committee urge upon the Ministry to ascertain the reasons for not promoting the District Red Cross Societies under ADIP Scheme from those States that have not promoted them so far. The Committee also recommend the Ministry to impress upon such State/UT Governments to expeditiously promote District Red Cross Societies in their respective States/UTs, particularly in North East States and far flung areas where no NGO is working so that benefits of the scheme could reach the large number of disabled persons.

### **Reply of the Government**

5.4 The matter has been taken up with the State Governments.

(Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment O.M NO. 4-185/05-DD-I dated 25 June, 2008)

**NEW DELHI;**  
**11 August, 2008**  
**20 Sravana, 1930 (Saka)**

**SUMITRA MAHAJAN**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Social Justice and**  
**Empowerment.**

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON MONDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2008.**

**The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1545 hrs. in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.**

**PRESENT**

**Smt. Sumitra Mahajan - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS  
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Eknath M. Gaikwad
3. Shri Tek Lal Mahato
4. Dr. Babu Rao Mediyam
5. Shri Kailash Meghwal
6. Shri Rupchand Murmu
7. Shri Jual Oram
8. Shri Ram Chandra Paswan
9. Shri Rabindar Kumar Rana
10. Smt. Pratibha Singh
11. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

**RAJYA SABHA**

12. Shri Silvius Condpan
13. Shri Ahmad Sayeed Malihabadi
14. Dr. Narayan Singh Manaklao
15. Dr. Radhakant Nayak
16. Shri Dharam Pal Sabharwal
17. Shri Nand Kishore Yadav

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

**Shri Bhupesh Kumar - Deputy Secretary**

2. At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson welcomed the Members and congratulated them on their re-nomination to the Committee for the term 2008-09.

3. The Committee then took up the draft Thirty-seventh Report on Action taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh

Report on the subject “Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances” (ADIP) for consideration and adopted the same with some minor modifications/amendments.

4. The Committee authorized the Chairperson to finalize the draft Report and present the same to Parliament on their behalf.

**The Committee then adjourned.**

## APPENDIX

### ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE TWENTY-SEVENTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA)

	Total	Percentage
I. Total number of Recommendations	14	
II. Observations/Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government: (Paragraph Nos. 1.49, 1.50, 1.53, 1.57 1.58 and 1.62)	6	42.86%
III. Observations/Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the replies of the Government: (Paragraph Nos. 1.52, 1.56 and 1.60 )	3	21.43%
IV. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted and have been commented upon by the Committee in Chapter I (Paragraph Nos. 1.54, 1.59 and 1.61)	3	21.43%
V. Observations/Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government are interim in nature: (Paragraph Nos. 1.51 and 1.55)	2	14.28%