

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1219

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2013

SCHEMES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

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

- (a) the present status of the Schemes/ projects being implemented for the welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities/physically and mentally challenged persons in the country, State/ UT-wise;
- (b) the funds sanctioned/ released and utilised for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to review the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities to bring it in consonance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to provide special assistance in order to reduce the problems being faced by this section of the society?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK)

(a) & (b): The Department is presently implementing the following major schemes for the welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities:-

(i) Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to NGOs running projects for the welfare of persons with disabilities

(ii) Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/ Appliances (ADIP) under which grant is released to Implementing Agencies for providing aids and appliances to persons with disabilities.

(iii) Scheme of Implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (PwD Act) under which grant-in-aid is provided to State Governments and various bodies set up by the Central and State Government, including autonomous bodies and Universities, to support activities pursuant to implementation of the provisions of the PwD Act, particularly relating to rehabilitation and provision of barrier-free access.

During the year 2013-14, an amount of Rs.124.85 crore, Rs.110 crore and Rs.105 crore respectively has been provided under the schemes. Statements indicating State/UT-wise funds released under the Schemes during the last three year and the current year are at Annexures I, II & III respectively.

(c) & (d): Review of the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities is an ongoing process. In the first instance, however, it is envisaged to bring the existing laws on persons with disabilities in line with the provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD).

(e): During the current year 2013-14, the Department held five zonal review meetings at Delhi and also several meetings with State Secretaries of the Disability Sector to impress upon the States/UTs to take suitable measures for speedy implementation of the policies/welfare schemes of the Department so that the benefit of these schemes/policies reach the maximum number of persons with disabilities. The Chief Secretaries of all States have also been requested to issue strict directions for timely submission of proposals of NGO/Implementing Agencies under the grant-in-aid schemes of the Department.