

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(2012-2013)**

(FIFTEENTH LOK SABHA)

**DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS
(MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
(2013-2014)**

THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
May, 2013/ Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)**

35

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(2013-2014)

Presented to Lok Sabha on 2.5.2013

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 2.5.2013



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

May, 2013/ Vaisakha, 1935 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND
EMPOWERMENT (2012-2013)**

SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri M. Anandan
3. Smt. Susmita Bauri
4. Shri Devidhan Besra
5. Shri Tarachand Bhagora
6. Smt. Rama Devi
7. Shri Gorakh Prasad Jaiwal
8. Shri Mohan Jena
9. Shri Dinesh Kashyap
10. Shri Kirodi Lal Meena
11. Kumari Meenakshi Natarajan
12. Shri Wakchaure Bhausaheb R.
13. Smt. Sushila Saroj
14. Shri N. Dharam Singh
15. Shri Pradeep Kumar Singh
16. Dr. Naramalli Sivaprasad
17. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya
18. Shri Kabir Suman
19. Vacant
20. Vacant
21. Vacant

**MEMBERS
RAJYA SABHA**

22. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
23. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
- *24. Shri Rishang Keishing
25. Shri Mangala Kisan
26. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
27. Prof. Mrinal Miri
28. Shri Jesudasu Seelam
29. Shri Mohammad Shafi
30. Shri Shivpratap Singh
31. Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad

* Resigned from the Committee w.e.f. 22.2.2013

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri. Devender Singh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Anita Jain | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Kushal Sarkar | - | Additional Director |
| 4. | Smt. Neena Juneja | - | Under Secretary |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2012-13) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, do present this Thirty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants for the year 2013-14 of the Department of Disability Affairs (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment).

2. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the current year i.e. 2013-14 which was laid on the Table of the House on 19.3.2013. Thereafter, the Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Department of Disability Affairs (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) on 1.4.2013. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 18.4. 2013.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Department of Disability Affairs for placing before them the detailed written notes on the subject and furnishing the information the Committee desired and tendering evidence before the Committee in connection with the examination of the Demands for Grants.

4. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations and recommendations of the Committee have been printed in thick type in the body of the Report and have also been reproduced in a consolidated form in Appendix to the Report.

NEW DELHI;

18 April, 2013
28 Chaitra, 1935 (Saka)

HEMANAND BISWAL
Chairman,
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

(vi)

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS

INTRODUCTORY

1.1 The Department of Disability Affairs was created on 14th May, 2012 under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for greater focus on policy, programmes and implementation of schemes for empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (PwD). The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation, (PwD) Act 1995 defines disability as blindness, low vision, leprosy cured, hearing impairment, locomotor disability, mental retardation, and mental illness, whereas 'person with disability' means a person suffering from not less than 40% of any disability as certified by a medical authority.

1.2 As per the data available with the National Sample Survey Organization 2002 approx 1.85 crore of the population are disabled in the country. The Ministry have further informed that rehabilitation of PwD is largely a State subject. The following constitutional provisions apply to all persons including persons with disability:-

- (1) The Constitution of India guarantees equality, freedom, justice and dignity of all citizens, including PwDs.
- (2) Article 41: states that the State shall make effective provision for securing the right to work, to education and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want.
- (3) "Relief of the disabled and unemployable" also figures in 7th Schedule ("State List"), 11th Schedule (Panchyats), 12th Schedule (Municipalities)

The following Acts govern various aspects of disabilities:

- (4) Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) Act, 1992.

- (5) Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) (PwD) Act, 1995.
- (6) National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (NT) Act, 1999.
- (7) Mental Health Act, 1987.

1.3 As per the Allocation of Business Rules 1961 the subjects allocated to the Department are as follows:-

- I The following subject which fall within List I – Union List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution:

Indo-US, Indo-UK, Indo-German, Indo-Swiss and Indo-Swedish Agreements for duty-free import of donated relief goods/supplies and matters connected with the distribution of such supplies.
- 2 Social Security and Social Insurance, save to the extent allotted to any other Department.
3. For the Union Territories, till the following subjects which fall in relief of the disabled and the unemployable social security and social insurance, have to the extend allowed to any other Department. List II – State List or List III - Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, in so far as they exist in regard to such territories:
4. To act as the nodal Department for matters pertaining to Disability and Persons with Disabilities.
5. Special schemes aimed at rehabilitation and social, educational and economic empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, e.g. supply of aids and appliances, scholarships, residential schools, skill training, concessional loans and subsidy for self-employment, etc.

6. Education and Training of Rehabilitation Professionals.
7. International Conventions and Agreements on matters dealt with in the Department. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
8. Awareness generation, research, evaluation and training in regard to subjects allocated to the Department.
9. Charitable and Religious Endowments, and promotion and development of Voluntary Effort pertaining to subjects allocated to the Department.
10. The Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 (34 of 1992).
11. The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 (1 of 1996).
12. The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 (44 of 1999).
13. The Rehabilitation Council of India.
14. The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.
15. The National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.
16. The National Handicapped and Finance and Development Corporation.
17. Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation, Kanpur.
18. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Institute for Physically Handicapped, New Delhi.
19. National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata.
20. National Institute of Visually Handicapped, Dehradun.
21. National Institute of Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad.

22. Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai.
23. National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack.
24. National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai.
25. The Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre, New Delhi.

The allocation of Business Rules also provide that the Department of Disability Affairs shall be the nodal Department for the overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes for Persons with Disabilities. However, overall management and monitoring etc. of the sectoral programmes in respect of this group shall be the responsibility of the concerned Central Ministries, State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. Each Central Ministry or Department shall discharge nodal responsibility concerning its sector.

REPORT

A. GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT

2.1 The Budget Estimates for the Department of Disability Affairs for 2012-13 was about Rs. 548 crore (Plan and Non-Plan) whereas RE was around Rs. 308 crore. An allocation of Rs. 611.20 crore has been made for the Department for the year 2013-14. The following statement gives Plan & Non-Plan allocation and expenditure for the Department of Disability Affairs during 2012-13 & 2013-14.

(Rs. in crore)

Sl. No.	Bureau	2012-13					2013-14
			BE	RE	Exp.	% of Exp. to RE	BE
1.	Welfare of the Disabled	Plan	451.00	235.12	212.08	90.2%	504.00
		Non-Plan	48.10	47.65	47.38	98.5%	51.20
		Total	499.10	282.77	259.46	91.75	555.20
2.	*Secretariat	Plan	-	-	-	-	-
		Non-Plan	-	-	-	-	-
		Total	-	-	-	-	-
3.	Lump sum allocation for NE & Sikkim	Plan	49.00	26.12	11.81	45.21	56.00
		Non-Plan	-	-	-	-	-
	Total	Plan	49.00	26.12	11.81	45.21	56.00
		Non-Plan	-	-	-	-	-
	Grand Total		548.10	308.89	271.27	87.82	611.20

* There is no separate Demands for Grants for the Department of Disability Affairs.

As seen from the table, the Budget Estimate (2012-13) was reduced from Rs. 548 crore to Rs. 308 crore in RE (2012-13) i.e. a reduction of 56%. In BE (2013-14) an amount of Rs. 611.20 crore has been kept.

2.2 The following table indicates BE/RE 2012-13 and actual expenditure scheme wise for the year and BE 2013-14.

(Rs. in crore)

		2012-13			2013-14
No.	Name of the Scheme	BE	RE	Exp	BE
I	Central Sector Schemes				
A	Ongoing Schemes				
1	Deen Dayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme	120	75	46.99	124.85
2	Assistance to Disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances	100	75	71.50	110.00
3	Schemes arising out of the Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995	100	20	20.03	105.00
4	National Institutes for Disabled	70.00	60.00	55.88	75.00
5	National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation	30.00	20.00	20.00	35.00
6	Establishment of Indian Sign Language Research and Training	15	5.20	5.20	10.00
7	Establishment of a National Centre of Universal Design and Barrier-free Environment	5	0.01	0	5.00
8	Employment for physically challenged	5	0.50	0.50	5.00
9	Rehabilitation Council of India	3	3.00	1.79	3.00
10	Modernization of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)	3	0.00	0.00	38.00
11	Indian Spinal Injury Centre	2	2.00	2.00	2.00
	Total-A				512.85
B	New Schemes				
1	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for PwDs – M.Phil/PhD in India and Post PG Studies Abroad	12	0.50	0	12.00
2	Scholarships for 'Top Class' Education for SwDs studying in premier high educational institutions	1.00	0.01	0	1.00
3	National Overseas Scholarships for PwDs	1.00	0.01	0	1.00
4	Free coaching for SwDs	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
5	Support for establishment/modernization/ capacity augmentation of Braille Presses.	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
6	Establishment of a college for deaf in each of the five regions of the country	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
7	Establishment of Centre for Disability Sports	0.00	0.00	0	0.01

8	Augment corpus fund of National Trust	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
9	Setting up of State Spinal Injury Centres	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
10	Establishment of National Mission, State Missions and District Coordinators	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
11	Establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
12	Establishment of Micro Enterprise Incubation Centres for persons with disabilities	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
13	Awareness generation and publicity	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
14	In-service training and sensitization of State Governments, local bodies and other service providers	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
15	Grant to Association for Rehabilitation Under National Trust Initiative of Marketing (ARUNIM) for supporting its marketing activities	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
16	Research on disability related technology, products and issues.	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
	Total-B				14.13
	Total A + B				526.98
II	Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)				
	New Schemes				
C	Educational Empowerment of Students with Disabilities				
1.	Post-Matric Scholarships for students with disabilities	33.00	0.01	0	33.00
2.	Pre-Matric Scholarships for SwDs	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
3.	Hostels for existing Government special schools not having hostels and augmentation of seats in existing hostels of Government special schools	0.00	0.00	0	0.01
	Total-C	500.00	261.24	228.89	33.02
	Grand Total				560.00

2.3 The schemes for which enhanced allocation has been made in 2013-14 are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)			
Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	BE 2012-013	RE 2013-14
1.	Deen Dayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)	120.00	124.85
2.	Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons	100.00	110.00

	for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/ Appliances (ADIP)		
3.	Scheme arising out of the Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act	100.00	105.00
4.	National Institute for the Disabled	70.00	75.00
5.	National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation	30.00	35.00
6.	Modernization of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation	3.00	38.00

2.4 The Department has furnished the following details of savings and surrender of funds under various schemes along with reasons for the same during 2012-13 and BE 2013-14.

(Rs. in crore)

No.	Name of the Scheme	BE	Exp	Savings /surrender	Reasons for surrender on BE	BE 2013-14
I	Central Sector Schemes					
A	Ongoing Schemes					
1	Deen Dayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme	120	46.99	73.01	Non- receipt of complete proposals in time from the States/UTs as also frequent transfers of FA leading to delay in approval of files beyond Rs.10 lakhs.	124.85
2	Assistance to Disabled persons for purchase/fitting	100	71.50	28.50	-do-	110.00
3	Schemes arising out of the Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995	100	20.03	79.97	Non- receipt of complete proposals in time from the States/UTs	105.00
4	National Institutes for Disabled	70	55.88	14.12	Due to unspent balance of the previous years available with the	75.00

					National Institutes	
5	National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation	30	20.00	10.00	Submission of less proposals by SCAs	35.00
6	Establishment of Indian Sign Language Research and Training	15	5.20	9.80	The utilization certificate of past release is pending.	10.00
7	Establishment of a National Centre of Universal Design and Barrier-free Environment	5	0	5.00	The proposal is yet to be finalized.	5.00
8	Employment for physically challenged in the private sector	5	1.79	1.21	This is Demand Driven Scheme. No proposal has been received from ESIC and EPFO.	5.00
9	Rehabilitation Council of India	3	2.69	0.31	Due to unspent balance of the previous year available with RCI	3.00
10	Modernization of Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)	3	0	3.00	The matter relating to financial restructuring is pending with Ministry of Finance.	38.00
11	Indian Spinal Injury Centre	2	2.00	0.00	-	2.00
	Total-A					512.85
B	New Schemes					
1	Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for PwDs – M.Phil/PhD in India and Post PG Studies Abroad	12	0	12.00	New Scheme launched in November 2012. UGC, the implementing agency of the scheme has not raised any demand despite regular follow-up	12.00
2	Scholarships for 'Top	1	0	1.00	Scheme is yet to	1.00

	Class' Education for SwDs				be approved. Planning Commission has raised certain issues which are being examined.	
3	National Overseas Scholarships for PwDs	1	0	1.00	Scheme not started	1.00
4	Free coaching for SwDs	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
5	Support for establishment/modernization/ capacity augmentation of Braille Presses.	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
6	Establishment of a college for deaf in each of the five regions of the country	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
7	Establishment of Centre for Disability Sports	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
8	Augment corpus fund of National Trust	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
9	Setting up of State Spinal Injury Centres	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
10	Establishment of National Mission, State Missions and District Coordinators	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
11	Establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
12	Establishment of Micro Enterprise Incubation Centres for persons with disabilities	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
13	Awareness generation and publicity	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
14	In-service training and sensitization of State Governments, local bodies and	0	0	0.00	-	0.01

	other service providers					
15	Grant to Association for Rehabilitation Under National Trust Initiative of Marketing (ARUNIM) for supporting its marketing activities	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
16	Research on disability related technology, products and issues.	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
	Total-B					14.13
	Total A + B					526.98
II	Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS)					
	New Schemes					
C	Educational Empowerment of Students with Disabilities					
1.	Post-Matric Scholarships for students with disabilities	33	0	33.00	The scheme is under consideration in consultation with Planning Commission.	33.00
2.	Pre-Matric Scholarships for SwDs	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
3.	Hostels for existing Government special schools not having hostels and augmentation of seats in existing hostels of Government special schools	0	0	0.00	-	0.01
	Total-C					33.02
	Grand Total			276.11		560.00

2.5 During 2012-13 an amount of Rs. 276.11 crore was surrendered by the Department of Disability Affairs. The Department has submitted the following reasons for their inability to expend the money voted by Parliament:

- (i) frequent changes at the level of FA resulting in dysfunctionality within the IFD
- (ii) IFD mostly cleared only those files in which the amount involved was upto Rs. 10 lakh i.e. within the powers of Director (IFD). Since there was no regular FA during most part of the financial year, cases beyond Rs. 10 lakh – which form the bulk of the cases – were not cleared
- (iii) change in procedure for requirement of documents adopted in the third quarter of the financial year under all schemes
- (iv) Late receipt of proposals from the State Governments &
- (v) Incomplete proposals alongwith pending UCs.

2.6 Explaining about the steps taken to overcome the above difficulties, the Ministry stated in response to a query:-

- (i) A Committee under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Disability Affairs is being set up to review the procedures for release of grant under various schemes of the Ministry. The State Governments would again be requested to send complete proposals of grant in aid in time. The Ministry of Finance was also requested to relax the ceiling on the total expenditure which can be incurred in the month of March i.e. 15% of the BE. Thereafter the relaxation was provided by the Ministry of Finance.
- (ii) The appointment of FA for various Ministries is done by Department of Expenditure. During the year 2012-13, there were frequent changes in the FAs and the incumbent FAs were holding additional charge of the Department.

The Finance Minister was requested by Hon'ble Minister SJ&E for appointment of FA on regular basis. New FA has joined on 4th of March, 2013.

- (iii) The matter regarding appointment of Joint Secretary has been taken up with the DOPT regularly and the new incumbent will join in the first week of April, 2013. However, no Director on regular basis has joined despite constant follow up with DOPT.

2.7 The representatives further submitted that a working group has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary, DDA for simplification of procedures for release of grant under various schemes of the Department. This working group also consists of the Additional Secretary, Department of SJ&E, all Joint Secretaries of the Ministry dealing with the schemes, Economic Adviser and Financial Adviser have also been nominated as members of the said Working Group which will submit its report shortly. The working group can also co-opt other Members.

2.8 Explaining about the constraints being faced in its functioning, the witness deposed that there were 48 sanctioned posts in the Department at present. It is proposed to create 4 Bureaus for Policy, Co-ordination, Administration and Central Programmes in Phase-I (48+106 =154). It was also stated that this would result in creation of 106 posts. The increase in posts in the second phase would be 28 posts in the IFD and Technical Bureau supported by personnel for statistics and research.

2.9 The Department further informed that the phase wise creation of new posts was under consideration of Ministry of Finance and the proposal for new accommodation was also under consideration of Ministry of Urban Development. The Department stated that due to non-fructification of the above requests 'the functioning of the Departments is constrained at present'.

2.10 The 12th Plan Allocation for the Department of Disability Affairs is Rs. 3284.00 crore and the breakup of the same scheme-wise is given below:-

Scheme-wise outlay for the 12th Plan		
(Rs. in crore)		
	Schemes	BE (12th Plan)
1	National Institutes for Disabled Persons	350.00
2	ADIP Scheme	500.00
3	ALIMCO	200.00
4	Rehabilitation Council of India	15.00
5	Indian Spinal Injury Centre	10.00
6	NHFDC	100.00
7	Scheme for Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995	400.00
8	Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme	600.00
9	Scheme of incentives to Employers in Pvt Sector for providing employment to PwDs	25.00
10	Establishment of ISLRTC	40.00
	NEW SCHEMES	
11	RGNF for PwDs-M-Phil/PhD in India and Post PG Studies Abroad	80.00
12	Establishment of National Centre of Universal Design and Barrier Free Environment.	40.00
13	PMS for students with Disabilities	150.00
14	Top Class Education for PwDs	10.00
15	National Overseas Scholarship for PwDs	10.00
16	Pre-Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities (SwDs)	194.00
17	Free Coaching for SwDs	20.00
18	Augment corpus fund of National Trust	200.00
19	Special / Residential School for students with severe and multiple disabilities, in districts not having Government special schools	50.00
20	Hostels for existing Government special schools not having hostels and augmentation of seats in existing hosels of Government special schools	50.00
21	Support for establishment / modernisation / capacity augmentation of Braille Presses	25.00
22	Rehabilitation Centres for treating mentally ill persons	25.00
23	Model multi-disability independent living	20.00

	centres	
24	Setting up of State Spinal Injury Centres	20.00
25	Preparation of comprehensive database and online State depository of resources on disability	10.00
26	Establishment of State Missions and District Coordinators	50.00
27	Awareness generation and publicity	50.00
28	Training of care-givers	20.00
29	In-service training and sensitization of State Governments, local bodies and other service providers	20.00
	Total : D/o Disability Affairs	3284.00

2.11 Further, explaining about the performance of the Department as well as the amount allocated in 12th Plan, the Secretary deposed (English version):

We are facing lot of constraints due to which we are unable to achieve our targets as expected. There are some reasons for this I want to put forward those reasons so that we may not face such constraints in coming years. Sir, you have rightly observed that we have an ambitious target for 12th Five Year Plan. Our outlay has been doubled. It is a Right Based Plan programme we have to adopt a strong strategy and take a number of steps”.

2.12 In response to a query on the utilization certificate, the Department informed that they were having problems with regard to timely submission of utilization certificates by the State Governments. Due to non-receipt of utilization certificate from the following State Governments/UTs for the grant released in the previous years, their proposals could not be processed for release of funds during 2012-13.

State-wise UCs were awaited

S. No	State/ University	Notional Allocation	Amount of Proposal	Remarks
1	Madhya Pradesh	6.20	8.38	UCs for the years 2006-2007, 2009-10 and 2010-11 awaited.
2	Karnataka	6.80	7.87	UCs for the years 2006-2007 and 2010-2011 awaited.
3	West Bengal	13.30	7.13	IFD has made certain observations. Clarification and UC for the year 2007-2008 from Govt.

				of West Bengal awaited.
4	Himachal Pradesh	1.10	0.35	UC for the year 2010-11 awaited.
5	Tamil Nadu	11.80	1.11	UC for the year 2011-12 awaited.
6	Odisha	7.3	1.74	UCs for the years 2005-06 and 2009-10 awaited
7	Uttar Pradesh	24.8	7.67	UCs for the years 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 awaited
8	Punjab	3.0	2.38	UCs the years 2009-10 and 2010-11 awaited
Total		74.3	36.63	

It was clarified that Grant-in-aid under ADIP & DDRS schemes is released to NGOs/Implementing Agencies and not to State Governments. Further, grant-in-aid is sanctioned only after receipt and acceptance of utilization certificate in respect of grant-in-aid released previously.

Implementation of the Programmes of the Department in the North-East.

2.13 The North Eastern Region (NER) comprises eight States namely, Assam, Tripura, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Sikkim. In terms of the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission, all Central Ministries/Departments are required to earmark at least 10% of their budgetary allocation for programme for the development of the North East Region and Sikkim. Under the schemes of the Department, 10% allocation is made for the States of the North Eastern Region.

2.14 Regional Meetings with the State Secretaries of Welfare/Social Justice of North Eastern States was held on 29.5.2012 and on 20.11.2012 for better implementation of the on-going schemes of the Department.

2.15 The Department have given the following details of notional allocation for States of NER during last five years under DDRS, ADIP and SIPDA:-

Allocations to NER States

(Rs. in crore)						
	DDRS		ADIP		SIPDA	
Year	NA	Expenditure	NA	Expenditure	NA	Expenditure
2008-09	9.50	4.32	9.50	6.03	0.00	0.00
2009-10	9.50	2.78	9.50	5.53	0.00	0.00
2010-11	13.00	6.14	9.50	5.03	7.50	0.36
2011-12	17.00	4.72	9.50	2.60	7.50	0.30
2012-13	17.00	3.46	9.50	4.32	10.00	4.88
Total	66.00	21.42	47.50	23.51	25.00	5.54

2.16 Seven National Institutes under the Ministry are provided grant-in-aid under plan for NE activity for creating awareness and facilitating need based developmental programmes/rehabilitation services and for expanding the coverage of schemes for empowerment of PwDs.

2.17 When it was pointed out that there was very low expenditure in the various schemes of the Department implemented in North East Region, the Department has informed that “various issues relating to implementation of the schemes of the Department, including utilization of funds earmarked for the North Eastern Region were discussed in a Conference of the Ministers of Social Welfare & Social Justice of the North Eastern States organized by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in coordination with the Government of Meghalaya on 29.5.2012 at Shillong, Meghalaya. Besides this, a regional conference with the State Secretaries of Welfare/Social Justice of the States of the North East was held on 20th November, 2012 at New Delhi wherein this issue was also taken up with the concerned States.

The issue of utilization of funds is also taken up with the States of NER by this Department from time to time”.

2.18 The Committee are dismayed to note the gross underutilization of funds in the disability schemes in the year 2012-13. The Department was given a mere budgetary allocation of Rs. 548 crore (both plan and non-plan) which was, lamentably, reduced at RE stage to Rs. 308 crore and worse, the expenditure was only Rs. 267.50 crore which is less than 50% of the allocated amount. A budgetary allocation of Rs. 611 crore has been kept as BE for 2013-14. The Department has given a number of reasons for underutilization which mainly include frequent changes in posting of Financial Adviser, change in procedure for requirement of documents, late receipt of proposals from the State Governments, incomplete proposals due to pending UCs, etc. The Committee however find these reasons unacceptable and are deeply anguished that the budgeted funds for the people with different abilities which were due to them as their rightful share, have been allowed to lapse. The Committee are also unhappy at the non-posting of regular Financial Adviser in the Department for most part of the year resulting in the non-sanction of the proposals of State Governments. The Committee therefore while recommending the Department to make all out efforts for full utilization of budgetary allocation of Rs. 611 crore in 2013-14, would also like the other Ministries/Departments to be sensitive enough to the needs of PwDs and support the Department of Disability Affairs in their endeavour to achieve its laudable goals. The Department also needs to be fully strengthened in terms of adequate human resource and the Committee be apprised. The Committee also recommend that the Department should be rechristened as the Department for the Differently abled and full and sustained publicity be given to the programmes and schemes of the Department so that the target groups avail the benefits thereof.

2.19 The Committee note that the Department's functioning has been constrained due to severe shortage of sanctioned staff at all levels. A proposal for creation of 4 Bureaus for Policy and Coordination; Administration; Central Programmes and Coordination's; and Finance Wing in Phase-I is reportedly, under consideration of Ministry of Finance which will increase the staff strength to 154 from the present 48 posts. Further a proposal for, new office accommodation is also pending with Ministry of Urban Development. While appreciating the problem and constraints of the newly created Department of Disability Affairs, the Committee recommend the Department to vigorously pursue with concerned Ministries for sanction of posts and office accommodation. The Committee would also urge upon these Ministries to urgently address the issues of the newly created Department so that it is enabled to function effectively and efficiently for the welfare and development of the target groups.

2.20 The Committee urge the Department to resolve various other issues with the State Governments and implementing agencies so that proposals are received well in time for according sanction and also take effective steps to ensure that there are no pending utilization certificates. The Committee were apprised that a working group has been set up under the chairmanship of Secretary DDA for simplification of procedures for release of grant under various schemes of the Department. The Committee feel this is an innovative endeavour and will help accelerate the responsibilities of the Department. The Committee also desire that the Department work on a strategy and make perspective plans to utilize the entire amount allocated in the 12th Plan which is

Rs. 3284 crore and apprise the Committee within three months for further review.

2.21 The Committee are deeply concerned at the poor implementation of the schemes of the Department in the North East Region of the country where the expenditure has been less than 50% in DDRS, ADIP and SIPDA schemes. The Committee desire that the Department exhort the NGOs and implementing agencies working in the disability sector as also help them to send viable proposals to take benefit of the schemes run by the Department of Disability Affairs. The Committee recommend that wide Publicity in Print and electronic media should be given to the various schemes so that the target groups get the schematic benefits.

B. DEENDAYAL DISABLED REHABILITATION SCHEME

2.22 The Scheme is being implemented with the objective of ensuring effective implementation of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The scheme aims to create an enabling environment to ensure equal opportunities, equity, social justice and empowerment of persons with disabilities, by encouraging voluntary action. NGOs are given assistance under the Scheme for providing a wide range of services to persons with disabilities, e.g.

- (i) Programme for pre-school and early intervention
- (ii) Special education
- (iii) Vocational training and placement
- (iv) Community based rehabilitation
- (v) Manpower development
- (vi) Psycho-social rehabilitation of persons with mental illness
- (vii) Rehabilitation of leprosy-cured persons, etc.

2.23 The Department have furnished the following statement on BE, RE and Actual Expenditure under the scheme:-

Budget for DDRS

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
2010-11	120.00	90.00	82.27
2011-12	120.00	90.00	86.16
2012-13	120.00	75.00	46.99
2013-14	124.85		

2.24 Replying to a query of the Committee regarding under utilization of funds, Ministry have stated:-

- (i) The proposals for release of grant to NGOs under DDRS are forwarded by the State Governments concerned along with their recommendations. An inspection of the organization is also carried out by the State Government and the report forwarded along with recommendations for release of grant-

in-aid, as per the provisions of the scheme. The proposals for release of grant-in-aid are usually received in the third quarter of the financial year. Further, there are deficiencies in the documents received with the proposals which take time to be rectified. This results in less expenditure in the first two quarters of the financial year and therefore the budget is reduced at RE stage.

- (ii) The proposals from the State Governments are usually received from the 3rd quarter of the financial year onwards, so that there is more expenditure in the last two quarters. Further, even though more than 850 files (as on 28.02.2013) under DDRS involving a total amount of Rs.80 crore were submitted to IFD, only those files were cleared in which the amount involved was upto Rs.10 lakh i.e. within the powers of Director (IFD) resulting in less expenditure.

2.25 Elaborating on the underutilization of funds of the DDRS scheme, the representative of the Ministry testified;

“The problem is that we get proposals from most of the States after September or October. Last year we were able to spend Rs. 86 crore and we were hoping that we would touch above Rs. 90 crore, but this year the Finance Ministry’s guidelines were revised that pending Utilization Certificate in respect of all the grants released by any Ministry is to be checked and updated and only thereafter the next grant can be given. This resulted in re-working of our proposals. In fact, we have processed more proposals than last year”.

2.26 Regarding the revision of the DDRS scheme, the Department have informed that in so far as cost norms under DDRS are concerned, a Committee was set up under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, SJ&E with representative of related Ministries and NGOs. The Committee has given its report and the same is under consideration of the Department. In order to simplify the procedure for release of grant under DDRS and other schemes, a working group under the Chairpersonship of Secretary, DDA has also been set up recently.

2.27 The Committee note that under the Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation scheme, NGOs are given assistance for providing a wide range of services to persons with disability. The Committee are distressed to note the repeated underutilization of Budgetary allocations under the scheme. For the year 2010-11 & 2011-12 against BE of Rs. 120.00 crore for each year actual expenditure has been only Rs. 82.27 & Rs. 86.16 crore respectively. The position further deteriorated during 2012-13, as the expenditure declined to Rs. 46.59 crore i.e. only 35% of the allocations were spent. The Committee are unhappy to note the explanation of the Department that the proposals are generally received for release of grant-in-aid from State Governments in the third quarter of the financial year resulting in less expenditure in the first two quarters of the financial year leading to consequent reduction of the budget at RE stage. Taking note of the constant recurrence, the Committee deplore that no concrete action has been taken to address the problem. While expressing their unhappiness at the sorry state of affairs, the Committee desire that the Department impress upon the State Governments to send the proposals well in time in the first quarter itself, so that the entire financial allocations can be utilized uniformly quarter-wise. The Committee would also like the Department to take up the matter with Ministry of Finance to relax the expenditure norms in such cases so that crucial funds for welfare of persons with different abilities do not lapse.

2.28 The Department has informed that for the revision of cost norms under DDRS a Committee was set up under Additional Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with representatives of related Ministries and NGOs

and the report of the same has been submitted. The Committee desire that expeditious action should be taken on the report and cost norms be reviewed taking into account the raising cost due to inflation and they be apprised.

C. SCHEME OF ASSISTANCE TO DISABLED PERSONS FOR PURCHASE/FITTING OF AIDS AND APPLIANCES (ADIP)

2.29 The objective of the Scheme is to provide durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances to persons with disabilities to promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disability, and to enhance their economic potential. Under the Scheme, grant in aid is released through the implementing agencies such as societies registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, Registered Charitable Trusts, District Rural Development Agencies, Indian Red Cross Societies and other Autonomous Bodies headed by District Collector/ Chief Executive Officer, District Development Officer of the Zila Parishad; National/ Apex Institutes functioning under administrative control of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment/ Ministry of Health & Family Welfare; Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), State Handicap Development Corporations; Local Bodies-Zila Parishads, Municipalities, District Autonomous Development Councils and Panchayats and Nehru Yuvak Kendras.

Budget for ADIP

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
2010-11	100.00	90.00	69.68
2011-12	100.00	80.00	75.99
2012-13	100.00	75.00	71.50
2013-14	110.00		

2.30 The Committee were informed that the main reasons for reduction in RE over BE has been that very few proposals of the implementing agencies were received in 1st and 2nd quarters of financial year. Keeping in view the trend of expenditure of the

1st two quarters, RE was reduced. Reasons for incurring less expenditure are (i) proposals were received late from the State Govts./UTs and (ii) most of the proposals are incomplete in one aspect or the other which involves correspondence with State Govts/UTs, resulting in release of less grant-in-aid.

2.31 Revision of ADIP Scheme is under consideration of the Ministry to examine the following:-

- a) Review of income ceiling for the eligible beneficiaries.
- b) Review of ceiling of cost of the assistive devices.
- c) Streamline the provisions of the Scheme.

2.32 The Department have furnished the following details in response to a query on the model worked out for the revision of the scheme:-

- (i) To enhance the income ceiling of the beneficiaries for availing benefits under the scheme as under:-

Total income	Amount of Assistance
Upto Rs.15,000/- per month(Presently it is Rs. 6500/- per month)	Full cost of aids/appliances
Rs.15,001/-to Rs. 20,000/-per month (Presently it is Rs. 6501 to 10,000 per month)	50% cost of aids/appliances

- (ii) Cost ceiling for aid/appliances be revised from Rs. 6000 to Rs. 10,000/- for single disability and from Rs. 8000/- to Rs. 12,000/- for students with visual mental, speech and hearing or multiple disability during entire study period.
- (iii) To enhance the extent of subsidy for motorized tricycles and wheel chairs to Rs.15,000/- for Locomotor Disabilities such as Quadriplegic (SCI), Muscular Dystrophy, Stroke, Cerebral Palsy, Hemiplegia, any other person with similar conditions where either three/four limbs or one half of the body are severely impaired.
- (iv) To increase the rate of boarding and lodging for each beneficiary from Rs.30/- to Rs.100/- per day (Maximum for 15 days).
- (v) Inclusion of cochlear implant under the scheme.

2.33 The Committee note that the objective of the ADIP scheme is to provide durable, scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances to persons with disabilities. Surprisingly, as against the budgetary allocation of Rs. 100 crore during 2012-13, The Department could spend only Rs. 70.60 crore. The Committee are not enthused with the explanation of the Department that RE was reduced as expenditure in two quarters 1st and 2nd quarter of financial year could not be made as very few proposals of implementing agencies were received and that most of the proposals were incomplete and required correspondence with State Governments. The Committee are saddened to note that such delays have become the recurrent theme and refrain of the Department and apparently no tangible corrective measure have been taken to resolve the problem. The Committee desire that the Department work out a strategy with the implementing agencies, so that all proposals are received in the first quarter of the year itself and the funds allocated are utilized as intended.

2.34 The Committee were apprised that the ADIP scheme is under revision, in regard to cost of the assistive device, income ceiling of the beneficiaries and streamlining the provisions in the scheme. The Committee however feel that the income ceiling parameter which is proposed to be raised to Rs. 15000/- per month is still not adequate and needs to be further enhanced so that more people can avail the benefit of the scheme. The Committee further desire that a monitoring mechanism needs to be developed to ensure that only genuine beneficiaries receive the aids and appliances, which may include issue of individual identity cards to the beneficiaries with their names, addresses and

the type of device issued to them along with the date. The Committee therefore, recommend that, beside maintaining the computerized List of beneficiaries with necessary details, Identity Card (Aadhaar based) be issued to the recipients of the aids with corresponding details matching the Government data and the Committee apprised.

D. SCHEME FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT 1995 (SIPDA)

2.35 The implementation of the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 is being undertaken with a multi-sectoral collaborative approach and with related Ministries/ Departments of the Central Government, the State Government and other appropriate authorities to take steps towards effective implementation of various provisions of the Act.

2.36 The Department has informed that financial assistance is being provided under this Scheme for implementation of Persons with Disability Act, 1995 (SIPDA) for providing barrier free environment in Universities, Public Buildings, State Government Secretariat, office of State Commissioner for Disabilities etc. Financial assistance is also provided for setting up of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs). The thrust has been on providing accessible features for the following activities:-

- (i) To provide barrier free environment in important government buildings (State Secretariats, other important State level offices for e.g. Collectorates; State University Buildings/Campuses; Medical Colleges and Main Hospitals at Divisional Headquarters; other important Central Government buildings), for PwDs as per Section 46 of the PwD Act. This would include provision for ramps, rails, lifts, adaptation of toilets for wheelchair users, braille signages and auditory signals, tactile flooring, etc.
- (ii) To make Government websites at the State and District levels accessible to PwDs, as per guidelines for Indian Government Websites issued by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (D/o AR&PG),

Government of India, which are available on their website "<http://darpq.nic.in>".

- (iv) To establish early diagnostic and intervention centres at district headquarters/other places with a view to help hearing impaired infants and young children to get prepared for regular schooling.

2.37 The Department have furnished the following figures for BE, RE and Actual Expenditure under the scheme as follows:-

Budget of SIPDA

(Rs. in crore)

Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
2010-11	100.00	75.00	50.41
2011-12	100.00	60.00	34.91
2012-13	100.00	20.00	20.03
2013-14	105.00		

2.38 The Department have given the following reasons for low expenditure under the scheme in response to a query:-

- (i) Under the Scheme for implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 (SIPDA), financial Assistance is given to the State Governments and various organizations/institutions run and supported by the Central Government for various activities especially for creating barrier free environment for the Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). Actual release for funds under the scheme depends on the number of complete proposals received from the State Governments/other Institutions/organizations run by the Central Government. Though the Department receives good number of proposals from the States/other eligible organizations, often the proposals received from the States lack certain supporting documents. The State Governments also do not respond to the discrepancies pointed out to them well in time. Thus, actual release of the fund under the Scheme is less than the budgeted amount. Budget provisions under the scheme is made anticipating that the States would respond to the queries

raised by the Department for their previous proposals and also in anticipation of receipt of fresh proposals from them and other eligible organizations/institutions.

- (ii) As explained above, the actual release of funds under SIPDA depends on receipt of concrete proposal from the States/other eligible organizations/institutions. While processing the proposals received from the States/ other Government Organisations/institutions during the year 2011-12, certain deficiencies in documents were found. The respective organisations were requested to provide certain clarification/ supporting documents. Due to non-receipt of required clarification/documents in time, the budgeted amount has to be accordingly reduced keeping in view the likely requirement at the time of finalizing Revised estimates.

2.39 Further when the Committee enquired about the steps taken by the Department to persuade State Governments and various organizations/institutions run and supported by the Central Government for various activities under the scheme especially for creating barrier free environment for movement of disabled persons in Government buildings, railway stations/Airport etc, the Department has submitted as under:

“In the previous years i.e. 2010-2011 & 2011-12, the Central Assistance had also been sanctioned to the State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and recognised Universities/Institutions, etc. through State Governments/ Union Territories under SIPDA for the following two activities: -

- (a) To provide barrier free environment in important government buildings (State Secretariat, other important State level offices, Collectorates, State University Buildings/ Campuses, Medical Colleges, Main Hospitals at Divisional Headquarters and other important Government buildings), for PwDs as per Section 46 of the PwD Act. This would include provision for ramps, rails, lifts, adaptation of toilets for wheelchair users, braille signages and auditory signals, tactile flooring, etc.
- (b) To make Government websites at the State and District levels accessible to PwDs”.

2.40 Further, the Department have informed that the Secretaries/Principal Secretaries of Social Welfare Departments of all State Governments/Union Territories were informed in August 2012 vide letter No. 16-02/2012-DD-II that Central Assistance was being provided under SIPDA to the State Governments for creation of barrier free environment. They were also informed of the notional allocation under the scheme for each State for the financial year 2012-2013. They were advised to send proposals, complete in all respects by 15-9-2012. As there was no response from many States/UTs, Secretary (DA) vide D.O. letter dated 26-09-2012, addressed to the Chief Secretaries of all States Governments/UTs requested them to forward the proposals by 15-10-2012. The matter was also raised with the States during review meetings.

2.41 The Committee note that under the scheme financial assistance is provided for implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 (SIPDA) for providing barrier free environment in universities, Public Buildings, State Government Secretariats, Office of the State as also assistance for setting up District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and the Committee composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs). The Committee are constrained to note the declining trend of expenditure under the head having bottoming to one fifth of the amount allocated i.e. only Rs. 20.00 crore against an allocation of Rs. 105 crore in 2012-13. The Committee outright reject the explanation of the Department that the funds could not be released under the scheme as concrete proposals could not be received from the State Governments well in time and those received were not complete in all respects. The Committee recommend that the officials of the Department should play a proactive role in helping the State Governments send complete and viable proposals so that the allocated funds are well utilized. The Committee desire that the Department evolve a suitable mechanism as part of e-governance drive so as to ensure that all schemes become accessible to PwDs at State and district levels. Since the Persons with Disability Act is to give effect to the proclamation signed by India on the full participation and equality of the people with Disability in the Asia and Pacific Region, the Committee recommend the Government to strictly monitor implementation of the Scheme.

2.42 The Committee desire that the Department should issue advisory notices to all State Governments to provide barrier free environment for movement in all Government buildings, State Universities, Hospitals, etc. so as to provide

ramps, rails, lifts, adaptation of toilets for wheel chair users, Braille signages and auditory signals etc. for disabled persons as per the International norms. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken in this behalf in due course.

E. EDUCATION SCHEMES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship scheme for PwDS

2.43 Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D. Courses is a new scheme for Students with Disabilities (SwDs) who wish to pursue higher education such as M.Phil. and Ph.D., in line with similar fellowship provided to SC & ST students. The objective of this award is to provide fellowships in the form of financial assistance to SwDs to pursue higher studies. The rates of fellowship for JRF and SRF will be at par with the UGC Fellowships. The scheme has already been finalized and UGC is the implementing agency of the scheme. Though the scheme was introduced in the financial year 2012-13, actual launching of the scheme depends on the preparedness of UGC as informed by the Department. The budget allocation for this scheme for 2013-2014 is Rs. 12.00 crores.

National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Students

2.44 National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities for higher studies abroad - The proposed scheme shall provide financial assistance to meritorious students for pursuing higher studies abroad in specified fields of Master level courses, Ph.D. and Post – doctoral research programmes in medicine, pure sciences, engineering, agricultural science and management. The assistance includes the cost of maintenance allowances, travel expenses, tuition fees and other educational expenses on the pattern of the existing scheme for SC/ST students. The proposed scheme shall provide for fees charged by Institutions as per actual, passage, visa fee, insurance, premium, annual contingency allowances, incidental journey allowance etc. The budget provisions for 2013-2014 is Rs. 1.00 crore.

2.45 Top Class Education for Students with Disabilities - The objective of the proposed scheme shall be to promote qualitative education amongst Students with Disabilities by providing full financial support for pursuing studies beyond 12th class in the identified Institutes of excellence spread all over the country which include IITs, IIMs, NITs, reputed medical, law and other institutes of excellence. Financial Assistance shall be awarded for full tuition fees, and other non-refundable charges, living expenses, books and stationeries, aids and assistance devices etc. The Department has informed that the scheme is yet to be approved. Planning Commission has raised certain issues which are being examined. The budget allocation for 2013-2014 for the scheme is Rs. 1.00 crore.

2.46 Post-matric scholarship scheme for Students with Disabilities - The objective of the proposed scheme is to encourage students with disabilities by providing them financial assistance to pursue studies at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education. The scheme is to be framed on the pattern of the existing scheme for SC/ST students. The Department has informed that the scheme is under consideration in consultation with the Planning Commission. The budget allocation for 2013-14 for the scheme is Rs.33 crore. The Department have informed that a concept note on the Post-Matric scholarship scheme has been sent for approval of the Planning Commission with the approval of Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E). During the evidence the Secretary further informed the Committee (English version):

“It is a new scheme made during this year only. We have to pursue the Post-Matric scholarship with the Planning Commission. We are very hopeful since we have already submitted the proposal. It is pending there. We hope that we will be able to get this cleared. I am very keen that we get these educational

schemes through because this is the first step in empowering the persons with disabilities”.

2.47 Pre-matric scholarship scheme for students with disabilities – the aim of the proposed scheme is to encourage parents of children with disabilities to send their children to school, lighten their financial burden and sustain their efforts to support their children to complete school education. A token budget of Rs.1 lakh has been kept for the scheme in 2013-14.

2.48 The Committee are happy to note that the department of Disability Affairs is contemplating the launch of new schemes for educational empowerment of the PwDs on the lines of existing schemes for SCs/STs. The Post-Matric scholarship scheme is under consideration of the Planning Commission and a budget of Rs. 33 crores has been kept for 2013-14. The Committee hope that the scheme will be approved by the Planning Commission and it will be implemented during the current year. The schemes such as the National Overseas scheme and Top Class Education schemes, for which only a token amount of Rs. 1 crore has been kept, are still at approval stage. As implementation of the education schemes would greatly help in empowering the persons with different abilities, the Committee recommend that the Department convey their anxiety and concern to the Planning Commission and pursue with them for early finalization of these schemes so that the schemes could be implemented at the earliest.

2.49 The Committee are unhappy with the fact that despite the Rajiv Gandhi Fellowship Scheme for PwDs, launched in 2012-13 and a budget of Rs. 12 crores kept in 2012-13, the scheme could not be implemented as it is dependent upon the preparedness of the UGC, which is the implementing agency. The Committee urge the Department to take up the matter with the Ministry of Human Resources Development and UGC so as to ensure that the scheme is implemented at the earliest in letter and spirit. They may also give wide publicity to the scheme to ensure that target groups become aware of the scheme and the Committee apprised.

F. NATIONAL INSTITUTES AND APEX LEVEL ORGANIZATIONS FOR DISABLED PERSONS

2.50 There are seven Institutes under this Department working in the field of disability. These Institutes are autonomous bodies set up under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, established for different type of disabilities. These Institutes are engaged in Human Resources Development in the field of disability, providing rehabilitation services to the persons with disabilities and Research and Development efforts.

Some basic details of these National Institutes are tabulated below :-

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Year of Establishment	Campus area (in acres)	Regional Centers/Regional Chapters, if any	Composite Regional Centre, if any under the Institute
1.	National Institute for Visually Handicapped, Dehradun	1979	43.00	One RC (Chennai) two Regional Chapters (Kolkata and Secunderabad)	One (Sundernagar (HP))
2.	National Institute for Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata	1978	3.00	Two RCs (Dehradun and Aizwal)	One (Patna)
3.	Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai	1983	4.77	Four RCs (Kolkata, Secunderabad, New Delhi and Bhubaneswar)	Two (Bhopal and Ahmadabad)
4.	National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad	1984	19.33	Three RCs (Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata)	None

5.	Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute for Physically Handicapped, New Delhi	1960	1.5	One RC (Secunderabad)	Two (Lucknow and Srinagar)
6.	National Institute for Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack	1975	26.66	None	One (Guwahati)
7.	National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai	2005	15.2	None	One (Kozhikode)

2.51 A combined allocation of Rs. 113.38 crore (Plan Rs. 70.00 crore and Non Plan Rs. 43.38 crore) was provided for National Institutes for Disabled Persons in BE 2012-13, out of which an amount of Rs. 53.17 crore (Plan) has been released. The allocation for 2013-14 for these bodies is Rs. 121.50 crore (Plan Rs. 75.00 crore and Non Plan Rs. 46.50 crore).

2.52 The Department have furnished the following details regarding funds released and utilized under Plan head by various National Institutes and the number of beneficiaries are as under:-

(Rs. in crore)

Name of Institute	2010-11		2011-12		2012-13 (20.03.2013)	
	Released	Utilization	Released	Utilization	Released	Utilization
NIVH	9.30	8.46	8.16	8.96	12.66	12.28
NIOH	5.36	5.75	7.73	5.54	1.50	3.68
NIHH	8.03	7.31	6.95	9.99	8.29	7.22

NIMH	11.67	8.25	7.54	8.74	1.26	5.46
NIRTAR	8.65	7.25	9.44	10.59	10.20	10.45
IPH	3.00	2.57	6.26	2.96	0.00	4.19
NIEPMD	11.83	14.71	8.54	9.76	7.69	7.51
Total	57.84	54.30	54.62	56.54	41.60	50.79

No. of beneficiaries

Name of Institute	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
	Beneficiaries		
NIOH	58887	46213	17676
NIMH	230030	161285	115246
NIRTAR	35782	174307	138363
IPH	36521	21220	12308
NIEPMD	36780	31533	41767
NIVH	157879	210333	149508
NIHH	64823	81777	53000
Total	620702	726668	527868

2.53 Elaborating on the modernization of National Institutes, the Department informed that they have constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri B.S.Baswan, former Secretary (SJ&E) to study and make recommendations for strengthening and upgrading the seven National Institutes for the Persons with Disabilities. The Committee has submitted its report which is under examination in the Department.

2.54 When the Secretary was asked what steps were being taken to modernize the National Institutes and bring them at par with other institutes the world over, the Secretary stated (English version):

some of our National Institutes are very old and some are new. NIEPMD has come up recently and NIVH is an organization since British time which looks after visually handicapped persons. This organization has been converted into a National Institute. Different national institutes have different requirements. It is our effort to globalise this so that we may lead in the field of rehabilitation in the entire South East Asia . We have a lot of expertise but there is a need to expand its capacity. We have constituted Baswan Committee and they have

given their recommendations. This year we are going to take further action on those recommendations.

2.55 The Committee note that the seven National Institutes under the Department of Disability Affairs are engaged in Human Resource Development in the field of disability providing rehabilitation services as well as making efforts in Research and Development. Against an allocation of Rs. 70 crore under plan head, the utilization of funds in 2012-13 has been around Rs. 53.17 crore. The Committee are however concerned to note that the beneficiaries have come down from 726668 in the year 2011-12 to 527868 in the year 2012-13. The Committee desire that the National Institutes should strive to utilize all resources available in empowering the target groups as also make sustained efforts in the field of R&D. The Committee would like to know the reasons for fall in the number of beneficiaries and the corrective measures being taken in this direction.

2.56 The Committee were apprised that in order to modernize the National Institutes, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri B.S. Baswan. The report of the Committee is under examination in the Department. The Committee desire that the Department should give top priority to modernize the National Institutes in this 12th plan period itself. Efforts should be made to convert them into model institutes in the South East Asia region. The Committee would also like to know the details of the work done by similar institutes the world over in the disability sector. The Committee also desire that an institute be set up for the PwDs whereby a complete research/academic set up can be established to study various worldwide developments, undertake comparative analysis of the measures being taken by various countries in the

field of disability management and suggest innovative solutions considering the socio-economic milieu of the country.

G. INCENTIVES TO EMPLOYERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

2.57 The scheme of Incentives to the Private Sector for employment of physically challenged persons has been launched w.e.f. 01.04.2008. Under the scheme, the Government of India provides the employer's contribution for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for three years, for physically challenged employees employed in the private sector on or after 01.04.2008, upto monthly salary of Rs.25,000/-. An amount of Rs.0.50 crore has been provided under the scheme in RE 2012-13 out of which Rs.0.50 crore has been released to ESIC. A budget provision of Rs. 5.00 crore including Rs.1 crore for NE region has been made for the year 2013-14. The scheme is a demand driven scheme and low expenditure is due to less demand being received from EPFO/ESIC.

2.58 Elaborating further on the success of the scheme, the Department have informed that the scheme of Incentives to Employers in the Private Sector for providing employment to persons with disabilities has been launched w.e.f. 1.4.2008. Under this Scheme, the Government provides the employer's contribution for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for 3 years, for persons with disabilities employees employed in the private sector on or after 1.4.2008, with a monthly salary upto 25,000/-. Upto 30.9.2012, 645 and 1001 persons with disabilities have been covered by Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) and Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) respectively under the

scheme. Funds disbursed to EPFO and ESIC under the above incentive scheme for 3 years is as under :

Name of the Organisation	Fund disbursed (Rs. in crore)		
	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
EPFO	0	0	0
ESIC	1	0	0.50

2.59 Regarding the 3% reservation policy in Government jobs for the disabled, the representatives of the Department testified that as per section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, every appropriate Government is required to appoint in every establishment not less than 3% of vacancies for persons with disabilities of which 1% each shall be reserved for persons suffering from (i) blindness, (ii) hearing impairment (iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy, in the posts identified for each disability. Department of Personnel & Training is the nodal agency to oversee appointment in Government establishments. Details of the information as obtained by DoPT are as under:-

Name of the Organization	No. of persons with disabilities employed in terms in of Sec. 33 of PwDs Act during last three years as on:			Efforts being made to monitor as also persuade concerned Ministries/ Departments/ State Governments
	01-01-2010	01-01-2011	01-01-2012	
All Central Ministries / Departments including Railways and Ministry of External Affairs	10,399	15,670	12,610	Various orders/instructions on appointment of PwDs are issued to all Central Ministries/ Departments including Railways and Ministry of External Affairs and also to all State Governments/UTs by DOPT from time to time..

2.60 The Committee are distressed to note that the scheme of giving incentives to employers in the Private Sector for providing employment to persons with disabilities launched in 2008 has hardly taken off as a meagre sum of Rs. 1 crore in 2009-10, nil in 2010-11 and Rs. 0.50 crore was released in 2011-12. Since it is an important scheme for encouraging the Private Companies to give employment to disabled persons, the Committee recommend that the Department should make vigorous efforts by organizing meetings and symposiums with the Private Sector Companies so that they can avail the financial benefits under the scheme and help provide employment to the persons with disabilities. The Committee hope that the Department will be able to appropriate Rs. 5.00 crore which has been earmarked under the scheme for 2013-14.

2.61 The Committee note that during the last three years as against reservation of three percent in Central Government jobs for the disabled persons, the reserved posts filled were 10,399 as on 1.1.2010, 15,670 as on 1.1.2011 and 12,610 as on 1.1.2012. The Committee would like to know the precise number of vacancies and the posts reserved for the people with disabilities and the percentage it constitutes to the total vacancies in the Central Governments/State Governments and UTs. The Committee have been informed that various orders/instructions on appointment of PwDs are issued to all Central Ministries/State Governments by the Department of Personnel and Training from time to time to persuade them to fill up the 3% of vacancies by PwDs. The Committee feel that this is not enough and the Department being a nodal Department to oversee the welfare of PwDs need to strictly keep a strict watch on filling up the quota for PwDs. The Committee hope the Department of

Disability Affairs will also pursue with the various Ministries and State Governments for implementation of the reservation policy so as to fill up all existing vacancies for disabled persons and keep the Committee apprised.

H. MONITORING, EVALUATION OF THE SCHEMES/PROGRAMMES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS

2.62 The outcome Budget of the Department states that during the field visits the Officers of the Department hold discussions with the officers of the States/UTs in order to identify constraints and to take corrective measures. Each NGO is required to be inspected by the State Government every year, and grant is considered after recommendation of the State level grant-in-aid Committee along with the inspection report and other relevant documents received through the State Governments. Further, in order to ensure more effective implementation, progress reports are also received under various schemes.

2.63 Sanction of Grant-in-aid to State Governments/NGO/implementing agencies are scrutinized keeping in view the provision of General Financial Rules and instructions issued by the Ministry of Finance from time to time.

2.64 The initiatives taken by the Department for monitoring the progress of implementation include:

- (i) The Department has set up a Monitoring Committee for monitoring, implementation of related schemes in all States/UTs.
- (ii) National Institutes and Composite Regional Centres under this Department, have been assigned specific territorial responsibilities for monitoring the implementation of the disability related schemes including distribution of Aids and Appliances.
- (iii) The Officers of the Department have been appointed as nodal Officers for the States/UTs to undertake field visits for on the spot study of implementation of schemes by implementing agencies and NGOs.

- (iv) Standing Audit Committee (SAC) have been set up to monitor and review the submission of Action Taken Notes of C&AG Audit Paras and Action Taken Report on PAC recommendations on 7.9.2010. Three meetings of the Committee have been held so far.

2.65 The Committee note that many steps have been taken by the Department of Disability Affairs to monitor and evaluate the implementation of their programmes and schemes and in this connection a Monitoring Committee already exists. Also officers of the Department have been appointed as nodal officers for States/UTs to undertake field visits for on the spot study of implementation of schemes by implementing agencies including NGOs. However, the Committee express their displeasure at the low expenditure under all the schemes of the Department as also the implementation aspect of their performance. The Committee feel that there is a need to set up State and district level Monitoring Committees on the lines of the Committees set up by the Ministry of Rural Development with representation of MPs, local MLAs as also Members of Panchayats for successful implementation of the various schemes of the Department of Disability Affairs.

NEW DELHI;

18th April, 2012
28th Chaitra, 1935 (Saka)

HEMANAND BISWAL
Chairman
Standing Committee on
Social Justice and
Empowerment

**MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON MONDAY, 1st APRIL, 2013**

The Committee met from 1100 hrs. to 1225 hrs. in Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

1. Shri M. Anandan
2. Smt. Susmita Bauri
3. Shri Tarachand Bhagora
4. Shri Gorakh Prasad Jaiswal
5. Kumari Meenakshi Natarajan
6. Smt. Sushila Saroj
7. Shri N. Dharam Singh
8. Shri Lalit Mohan Suklabaidya

RAJYA SABHA

9. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
10. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
11. Prof. Mrinal Miri
12. Shri Jesudasu Seelam
13. Shri Mohammad Shafi
14. Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Shri Devender Singh | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Smt. Anita Jain | - | Director |
| 3. | Shri Kushal Sarkar | - | Additional Director |

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITY AFFAIRS

Sl.	Name	Designation and Organization
1.	Ms. Stuti Kacker	Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs
2.	Shri Raghav Chandra	Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor, Department of Disability Affairs
3.	Shri K.V.S. Rao	Director, Department of Disability Affairs
4.	Shri Lal Sanglur	Director, Department of Disability Affairs
5.	Dr. Ratnesh Kumar	Director, Department of Disability Affairs
6.	Shri Dharmendra Kumar	Director, IPH
7.	Shri P.K. Pincha	CCPD
8.	General Ian Cardozo	Chairman, RCI
9.	Smt. Geeta Mukandan	Director, NIHH
10.	Smt. Anuradha Dalmia	Director, NIVH
11.	Shri T. Siva Kumar	Director, NIMH
12.	Dr. Neeradha Chandra Mohan	Director, NIEPMD
13.	Prof. A.K. Singh	Director, ISLRTC
14.	Shri G. Narayana Rao	CMD, ALIMCO
15.	Shri Harsh Bhal	CMD, NHFDC
16.	Smt. Poonam Natrajan	Chairperson, National Trust
17.	Shri P.C. Patti	Director, Audit, EPFO
18.	Major HPS Alluwalia	Chairman, ISIC

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee and also the representatives of the Department of Disability Affairs to the sitting of the Committee. The Chairman informed that the meeting had been convened to discuss the Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Department of Disability Affairs. With the permission of the Chairman, the representative of Department of Disability Affairs made a power point presentation briefly narrating the details of various schemes/programmes being undertaken by the Ministry and the physical and financial

targets achieved under the schemes, as also new schemes proposed in the year 2013-14.

3. The Members then raised points/questions, which inter-alia related :-

- (i) Under utilization and surrender of funds under various schemes and reasons thereof.
- (ii) Issue regarding non-receipt of timely and complete proposals from the State Governments and implementing agencies for the various schemes of the Ministry as also late receipt of Utilization Certificates from State Governments.
- (iii) Various scholarships schemes for the disabled persons to be launched in 12th Plan.
- (iv) Strengthening the National institutes for the disabled.
- (v) Setting up of monitoring and vigilance Committees with representation from MPs, MLAs and Panchayats for the various schemes of the Ministry.

4. The representatives of the Ministry then responded to the queries put forth by the Members to the extent possible. The Chairman directed them to furnish replies to those points which could not be replied in the meeting by 5.4.2013.

5. The Chairman thanked the Secretary and other officials of the Ministry for giving valuable information to the Committee on the subject and expressing their views in a free and frank manner on various issues.

6. The verbatim proceedings were kept on record.

The witnesses then withdrew.

The Committee then adjourned.

**MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON THURSDAY, 18TH APRIL,
2013**

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1520 hrs. in Committee Room 'C'
Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI HEMANAND BISWAL - CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS
LOK SABHA**

1. Shri M. Anandan
2. Smt. Susmita Bauri
3. Smt. Rama Devi
4. Shri Gorakh Prasad Jaiswal
5. Kumari Meenakshi Natarajan

RAJYA SABHA

6. Smt. Jharna Das Baidya
7. Shri Avtar Singh Karimpuri
8. Shri Ahmad Saeed Malihabadi
9. Shri Jesudasu Seelam
10. Shri Shankarbhai N. Vegad

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Devender Singh - Joint Secretary
2. Smt. Anita Jain - Director
3. Shri Kushal Sarkar - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that the sitting was convened to consider and adopt the two Draft Reports of the Committee on the Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Department of Disability Affairs (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment)

2. Thereafter, the Committee considered and adopted the Thirty-fourth Report on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs without any amendment and adopted the Thirty-fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2013-14) of the Department of Disability Affairs (Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) with slight addition.

4. The Committee authorized the Chairman to finalize these draft Reports and present the same to Parliament.

The Committee then adjourned.