

**28**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
EMPOWERMENT (2015-2016)**

**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**(DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS  
WITH DISABILITIES)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS  
(2016-2017)**

**TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**April, 2016/Vaisakha, 1938 (Saka)**

**28**

**TWENTY-EIGHTH REPORT**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND  
EMPOWERMENT (2015-2016)**

**(SIXTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT**

**(DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS  
WITH DISABILITIES)**

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS**

**(2016-2017)**

**Presented to Lok Sabha on 28.4.2016**

**Laid in Rajya Sabha on 28.4.2016**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

**April, 2016/ Vaisakha, 1938 (Saka)**

# CONTENTS

	PAGE(s)
COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE (2015-16)	(iv)
INTRODUCTION	(vi)
<b>REPORT</b>	
CHAPTER - I	INTRODUCTORY 1
CHAPTER - II	GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT 5
CHAPTER - III	NATIONAL INSTITUTES (NIs) 21
CHAPTER - IV	DEENDAYAL DISABLED REHABILITATION SCHEME (DDRS) 29
CHAPTER - V	ARTIFICIAL LIMB MANUFACTURING CORPORATION (ALIMCO) 38
CHAPTER - VI	SCHEME ARISING OUT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT,1995 (SIPDA) 42
CHAPTER - VII	EDUCATION SCHEMES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES 52
CHAPTER - VIII	AWARENESS GENERATION AND PUBLICITY SCHEME AND INFORMATION AND MASS EDUCATION CELL SCHEME 67
CHAPTER - IX	IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHEMES IN NORTH EASTERN REGION 74
CHAPTER - X	NEW SCHEMES/INITIATIVES 78
CHAPTER - XI	SETTING UP OF SEPARATE DISABILITY DEPARTMENT IN STATES 85

## ANNEXURES

- I. MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2015-16) HELD ON TUESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2016. 89
- II. MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2015-16) HELD ON 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2016. 93

**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL  
JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2015-2016)**

**SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS  
LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Jasvantsinh Bhabhor
3. Kunwar Bharatendra Singh
4. Shri Kantilal Bhuria
5. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
6. Shri Sher Singh Ghubaya
7. Shri Jhina Hikaka
8. Shri Prakash B. Hukkeri
9. Shri Bhagwant Khuba
10. Shri Sadashiv Kisan Lokhande
11. Smt. K. Maragatham
12. Shri Kariya Munda
13. Prof. Seetaram Ajmeera Naik
14. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
15. Sadhvi Savitri Bai Phule
16. Dr. Udit Raj
17. Smt. Satabdi Roy (Banerjee)
18. Prof. Sadhu Singh
19. Smt. Neelam Sonkar
20. Smt. Mamta Thakur
21. Shri Tej Pratap Singh Yadav

**MEMBERS  
RAJYA SABHA**

22. Dr. Tazeen Fatma
23. Shri Ahamed Hassan
24. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
25. Shri Prabhat Jha
26. Smt. Mohsina Kidwai
27. Shri Praveen Rashtrapal
28. Shri Nand Kumar Sai
29. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
30. Smt. Wansuk Syiem
31. Vacant\*

---

\* Smt. Jharna Das Baidya, MP, Rajya Sabha retired w.e.f. 2.4.2016.

## LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
3. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director
4. Smt. Madhu Bhutani - Under Secretary

## **INTRODUCTION**

I, the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Social Justice and Empowerment (2015-16) having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twenty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants, 2016-17 of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).

2. The Committee considered the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) for the current year i.e. 2016-17 which was laid on the Table of the House on 15.3.2016 in Lok Sabha and on 16.3.2016 in Rajya Sabha. Thereafter, the Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) on 29.3.2016. The Committee considered and adopted the Report at their sitting held on 27.4.2016.

3. The Committee wish to express their thanks to the officers of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) 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 the Appendix to the Report.

New Delhi;  
27 April, 2016  
07 Vaisakha, 1938 (Saka)

**RAMESH BAIS,**  
Chairperson,  
Standing Committee on Social  
Justice and Empowerment.

# REPORT

## CHAPTER - I

### INTRODUCTORY

1.1 The target group of the Department is Persons with Disabilities. The strategy for their empowerment is through schemes for educational, economic and social development and physical rehabilitation of persons with disabilities and to create an environment that provides them with equal opportunities, protection of their rights and full participation in society.

1.2 As per Census 2011, there are 2.68 crore Persons with Disabilities in India (who constitute 2.21 percent of the total population). Out of the total population of Persons with Disabilities, about 1.50 crore are male and 1.18 crore female. These include persons with visual, hearing, speech and loco-motor disabilities; mental illness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities and other disabilities.

1.3 The Constitution of India provides six Fundamental Rights to all the Citizens including the persons with Disabilities. These include - Right to Equality, Right of Freedom, Right against Exploitation, Right to freedom of Religion, Cultural and Educational Rights and Right to Constitutional Remedies.

1.4 Article 41 states that the state "The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, 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.

1.5 The Departments deals with the following Legislations governing different aspects of disability and welfare & empowerment of the Persons with Disabilities: -

1. The Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992,

2. The Persons with Disabilities **(Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation)** Act, 1995; and
3. **The National Trust** for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities **Act**, 1999.

1.6 Some of the major activities of the Department are as follows :-

1. To act as the nodal Department for matters pertaining to Disability and Persons with Disabilities:
2. 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.
3. Education and Training of Rehabilitation Professionals.
4. International Conventions and Agreements on matters, dealt with in the Department e.g. United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
5. Awareness generation, research, evaluation and training in regard to subjects allocated to the Department.
6. Charitable and Religious Endowments and promotion and development of Voluntary Efforts pertaining to subjects, allocated to the Department.
7. Charitable and Religious Endowments, and promotion and development of Voluntary Effort pertaining to subjects allocated to the Department.

1.7 The following Statutory Bodies/PSUs Autonomous Bodies come under The purview of the Department :-

- (i) Statutory Bodies



- (a) The Rehabilitation Council of India.
  - (b) The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.
  - (c) The National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.
- 
- (ii) PSUs/Autonomous Bodies
    - (a) The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC).
    - (b) Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO).

1.8 The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment have launched the National Action Plan for skill training of persons with disabilities in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2015.

1.9 The Government envisions to have an inclusive society in which equal opportunities and access are provided for the growth and development of persons with disabilities to lead productive, safe and dignified life. In furtherance of this vision, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015 on the occasion of International Day for Persons with Disabilities, as a nationwide flagship campaign for achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities and to create an enabling and barrier free environment with a focus and targets on three verticals, namely Accessibility of Built up Environment, Transport System Accessibility and Accessibility of Knowledge and ICT Ecosystem.

1.10 To create infrastructure and capacity building at the district level for providing rehabilitation services to persons with disabilities, awareness generation, training rehabilitation professionals, etc. the Department provides assistance for setting up District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) in un-served and under-served districts of the country.

1.11 There are seven National Institutes under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities working the field of disability. These Institutes are autonomous bodies established for different types of disabilities and are engaged in Human Resources Development in the disability sector.

## CHAPTER - II

### GENERAL PERFORMANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT

2.1 The Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) for the year 2016-17 are given under Demand No. 83. The detailed Demands for Grants of the Department were laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 and Rajya Sabha on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2016.

2.2 The Budget Estimate, Revised Estimate and the Actual Expenditure of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for the last three years – both for Plan and Non-Plan – along with the percentage expenditure over Revised Estimate is given in following Table:

(Rs. in crore)					
Head	Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure	Percentage expenditure over RE
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
Plan	2013-14	560.00	460.00	341.49	74.24
	2014-15	565.00	375.00	337.96	90.12
	2015-16	565.40	540.00	483.34	89.51
	2016-17	700.00			
Non Plan	2013-14	51.20	49.95	49.89	99.88
	2014-15	67.89	66.06	65.57	99.26
	2015-16	71.54	70.95	68.45	96.48
	2016-17	83.56			

(expenditure upto 31.3.2016)

2.3 The Department have furnished the following statement showing BE, RE and Actual Expenditure on all the schemes from the year 2013-14 to 2015-16 alongwith BE for the year 2016-17 on the basis of which some of the scheme have been commented upon :-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme/ Programme	2013-14			2014-15			2015-16			BE 2016-17
		BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	BE	RE	Actual Exp.	
1	<b>National Institutes</b>	75.00	98.70	87.92	105.00	87.00	78.97	105.25	106.00	82.19	113.00
2	<b>Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase of Fitting Devices (ADIP)</b>	110.00	110.00	95.36	110.00	101.50	101.28	125.50	151.40	118.64	130.00
3	<b>Deen Dayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)</b>	124.85	90.00	63.64	90.00	50.50	50.08	60.00	51.00	34.03	45.00
4	<b>Rehabilitation Council of India (Plan)</b>	3.00	3.00	2.12	5.00	3.00	3.72	4.00	4.00	3.03	4.00

5	<b>Schemes Arising out of The Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 (SIPDA)</b>	105.0	65.00	47.71	80.00	61.41	43.09	135.00	99.00	54.72	193.00
6	<b>Employment for Physically Challenged</b>	5.00	1.00	0.53	2.00	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.33	0.50
7	<b>National Handicapped Finance &amp; Development Corp. (NHFDC)</b>	35.00	35.00	32.55	37.00	37.00	36.58	35.00	35.00	33.81	30.00
8	<b>Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)</b>	38.00	38.00	0.00	20.00	0.01	0.00	21.00	5.00	3.58	5.00
9	<b>Spinal Injury Centre</b>	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	1.80	2.00	2.00	1.50	2.00
10	<b>Establishment of National Institute of</b>	5.00	1.00	0.00	4.00	0.01	0.00	0.50	0.01	0.00	0.37

	<b>Universal Design and Barrier Free Environment</b>										
11	<b>Establishment of Institute of Sign Language, Research &amp; Training Centre (ISLRTC)</b>	10.00	1.00	0.00	4.00	0.01	0.00	4.00	1.00	0.25	3.00
12	<b>National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities</b>	12.00	15.00	9.65	17.00	10.00	7.47	8.00	20.57	6.56	19.50
13	<b>Post Matric Scholarship to Student with Disabilities</b>	33.00	0.05	0.00	12.00	2.00	0.00	12.00	10.00	0.96	8.00
14	<b>Top Class Education for PwDs</b>	1.00	0.05	0.00	3.00	1.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	1.00
15	<b>National Overseas Scholarship for PwDs</b>	1.00	0.05	0.00	3.00	1.00	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.00	1.00
16	<b>Support for</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	13.00	2.00	3.86	4.66	10.65	4.48	9.10

	<b>Establishment/ Modernization of Braille Presses</b>										
17	<b>Establishment of College for Deaf in 5 Regions of the Country</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.50	0.01	0.00	5.00	0.50	0.00	0.10
18	<b>Establishment of Centre for Disability Sports</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	0.50	0.01	0.00	1.00
19	<b>Budgetary Support to National Trust</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.98	0.98	0.93	5.00
20	<b>Setting up of State Spinal Injury Centres</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.50	0.01	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.38	4.00
21	<b>Establishment of National Mission, State Missions and District Coordinators</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
22	<b>Establishment</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	0.99	0.10	0.00	0.01

	<b>of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation</b>										
23	<b>Establishment of Micor-enterprise Incubation Centres for Persons with Disabilities</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	<b>Awareness Generation and Publicity</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	3.00	2.00	0.71	5.00	4.00	2.17	3.00
25	<b>In-service Training and Senisitization of officials</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
26	<b>Grants to Association for Rehabilitation under National Trust</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	2.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	<b>Research on Disability</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	0.50	0.50	0.05	0.40



	<b>related Technology</b>										
28	<b>Pre-matric Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	12.00	1.00	0.00	12.00	5.00	0.28	4.00
29	<b>Free Coaching for PwDs</b>	0.01	0.01	0.00	3.00	1.00	0.00	0.49	0.01	0.00	1.00
30	<b>National Programmes for Persons with Disabilities</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.02	0.00	5.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
31	<b>Information and Mass Education Cell</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	10.00	7.37	10.00	25.00	7.63	70.00
32	<b>Grants -in-aid to National University of Rehabilitation Science and Disability Studies</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00	45.00

(Expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

2.4 The Department have furnished statement indicating BE, RE and Expenditure for the last three years and Budget Estimates 2016-17 for Non-Plan as under :-

<b>Statement indicating BE, RE and Expenditure for the last three years and Budget Estimates 2016-17 for Non - Plan</b>											
<b>(Non Plan- Rs. in lakhs)</b>											
<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities</b>	<b>BE 2013-14</b>	<b>RE 2013-14</b>	<b>Exp. 2013-14</b>	<b>BE 2014-15</b>	<b>RE 2014-15</b>	<b>Exp. 2014-15</b>	<b>BE 2015-16</b>	<b>RE 2015-16</b>	<b>Exp. upto 29.2.15</b>	<b>BE 2016-17</b>
1	Secretariat	0.00	0.00	0.00	1289.00	757.00	717.00	1162.00	1088.00	976.00	1654.00
2	National Institutes for Disabled Persons	4650.00	4650.00	4650.00	5016.00	5451.50	5448.00	5512.00	5618.00	4713.00	6274.00
3	Rehabilitation Council of India	160.00	145.00	145.00	175.00	165.00	165.00	190.00	190.00	181.00	200.00
4	Handling Clearance of Duty Free Consignments under Bilateral	95.00	0.00	0.00	69.50	1.00	0.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	1.00

	<b>Agreements</b>										
<b>5</b>	<b>Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities</b>	<b>215.00</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>194.64</b>	<b>239.50</b>	<b>231.50</b>	<b>215.00</b>	<b>280.00</b>	<b>199.00</b>	<b>162.00</b>	<b>227.00</b>
	<b>Total :</b>	<b>5120.00</b>	<b>4995.00</b>	<b>4989.64</b>	<b>6789.00</b>	<b>6606.00</b>	<b>6545.00</b>	<b>7154.00</b>	<b>7095.00</b>	<b>6032.00</b>	<b>8356.00</b>

(Expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

2.5 A perusal of above statement revealed that the Department could not achieve the target set during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16 and they are not able to overcome the trend of underutilization of funds. For example, Scheme for Implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 (SIPDA), DDRS, National fellowship for PwDs, Post-matric and Pre-matric scholarship schemes for students with disabilities, Awareness Generations and Publicity scheme and Information and Mass Education Cell (MEDIA) are vital schemes where a continuous less utilization of funds has been observed.

2.6 When the Committee asked the reasons for continuous underutilization of funds even after decrease at RE stage (Plan), the Department in their written replies stated as under :-

"Department have not been able to overcome a trend of under utilization of funds as most of the proposals of the flagship Schemes of the Department (DDRS, SIPDA, Scholarship) are either received from States/UTs or dependent on their verification process. This implies that actual release of funds can be effected only after receipt of concrete/complete proposals from the eligible agencies/Organizations/State Govts, and very often the proposals received from their organization are not eligible which results in delay and releasing funds. Another perennial problem is that of non-furnishing of Utilization Certificates of past releases by State Governments in the SIPDA Scheme.

However, the trend of underutilization is being reversed by the Department which is evident from the expenditure of Rs. 337.96 crore incurred in 2014-15, and Rs. 483.34 crore incurred this year, which is 89.50% of the RE 2015-16 and 85.48% of the BE 2015-16. This year expenditure has recorded a quantum jump of 43.21% as compared to last year. The Department have submitted that under the Scheme of National Institutes, ADIP, Budgetary Support to National Trust, Indian Spinal Injury Centre, Information and Mass Education Cell, In-service Training & Sensitization, NHFDC, Support for Braille Presses, National Fellowship for PwDs, 100% utilization has been achieved. The unutilized funds on account of some of the Scholarship Scheme are mainly due to the technical

problems in Public Financial Management System (PFMS) portal, due to which funds to the tune of Rs. 11crore could not be transferred to students through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). Under the Skill Development Programme, due to the instructions of NITI Aayog regarding recommendations of State Government for every NGO proposal, insufficient proposals were received and funds of Rs.30crores remained unutilized in SIPDA Scheme.

Expenditure has been incurred for the first time under the following Schemes:

(a) Pre & Post Matric Scholarship (b) Top Class Scholarship (c) Modernization of ALIMCO (d) R&D, (e) State spinal Injury Centre (f), Budgetary Support to National Trust and (g) In-Service Training and Sensitization (h) Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre, National Institute of Mental Health Retardation. Department is however, striving hard and making concerted efforts to achieve 100% utilization in all the Schemes in the year 2016-17".

2.7 When asked the reasons for seeking an enhanced allocation under the Plan Head for the year 2016-17 and how will they utilize the enhanced amount under its ongoing and forthcoming schemes, the Department stated as under :-

"Under the Scheme of National Institutes, enhanced allocation has been sought for construction of seven new building in the National Institutes and Composite Regional Centres, as approved with approx cost of Rs.40 crore.

SIPDA Scheme has been formulated with effect from 28.1.2016 and new activities, such as, Accessible India Campaign', Skill Development Training Programme under National Action Plan, have been added in the Scheme. Under SIPDA, enhanced funds have been demanded for meeting the targets under Accessible India Campaign launched on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015. Under the National Action Plan of Skill Development Training Programme, skill training programmes for 26572 persons with disabilities have been started through National Institutes, Composite Regional Centres and

National Handicapped Development Corporation (NHFDC) for which grants-in-aid of 1<sup>st</sup> installment/2<sup>nd</sup> installment have been released during 2015-16. These training programmes will be completed during 2016-17 and remaining installments of grants-in-aid will be released. Fresh proposals of Skill Development Training Programme of other implementing agencies will also be undertaken during 2016-17.

Department is also in the process of opening new Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs). Keeping in view all these factors, the amount in the BE 2016-17 has been enhanced.

Scholarship Schemes are being implemented through the National e-scholarship Portal which is a part of Digital India Campaign and wide publicity is being given through media to create awareness among the targeted beneficiaries, thus anticipating huge demand under these Schemes in the next financial year.

Under Schemes of Assistance to Disable Persons for purchase of fitting devices, enhanced demand has been projected to meet the targets of inclusion of high end devices, cochlear implant, and increased demand of camps by Members of Parliament and other VIPs. During 2014-15 and 2015-16, about 275 proposals were received from Members of Parliament and other dignitaries for holding camps in various parts of the country. Out of these proposals, the Department have conducted about 105 camps during 2014-15 and 2015-16. There are 78 camps wherein assessment has been completed for the amount of Rs.47.50 crore (approximately) and in 91 proposals the assessment is yet to be done. An amount of Rs.100 crore approximately would be required to complete these camps during 2016-17.

Besides the above, funds are also required for carrying out ADIP-SSA activities throughout the country, Cochlear Implants surgeries, distribution of aids and assistive devices through Headquarter activities of implementing agencies like ALIMCO, National Institutes and Composite Regional Centres

(CRCs). Hence, BE for 2016-17 has been increased to Rs.130 crore against Rs.125.50 crore in 2015-16, which is expected to be fully utilized in 2016-17. Enhanced funds are also required for construction of ISLRTC, National Institute of Universal Design, Centre for Disability Sports etc".

2.8 When the Committee desired to know the measures taken/proposed to ensure maximum utilization of funds allocated for various schemes/programmes for the year 2016-17, the Department submitted, in their written replies, that the following steps have been taken to ensure maximum utilization of funds during the year 2016-17 :-

- I. Web Portal through which the scholarship applications are called is being simplified to make it more user friendly.
- II. Advertisement will be issued in all leading newspapers all over the country, through website and other media channels.
- III. Radio-jingles will be broadcast through radio all over India even in regional languages.
- IV. Further simplification of some of the schemes.
- V. Directors of National Institute have been instructed to prepare effective plan of action for utilizing funds allocated to them during 2016-17 and get approval of Executive Council in advance, so the funds could be utilized within in time. National Institutes have also been asked to spread their activities so that each & every PwD in the country may be covered. National Institutes have also been asked to upgrade the equipments fully equipped with modern amenities & technologies and also to increase the activities in the area of research and development.
- VI. Department will take up with the representatives of States/UTs dealing with disability to send the proposal of NGOs along with their recommendations at the earliest by June, 2016. Early receipt of proposal will ensure timely and full utilization of funds for identifying bottleneck/hurdles in some of the schemes.
- VII. Under Information and Mass education Cell, Department have prepared a strategy for full utilization of budget of Rs. 70 crore provided under the

scheme in BE 2016-17 in consultation with DAVP. The Department have also constituted AIC Project Management Unit by engaging a Campaign Manager, Media and Social Media Consultants, UN Accessibility Consultants to oversee the implementation of AIC. The strategy is being implemented in consultation with DAVP and the platforms of Doordarshan, All India Radio and MyGov are being used extensively to promote the Campaign and make full use of the funds in 2016-17.



**2.9 The Committee note that the approved 12<sup>th</sup> Plan outlay for the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities was Rs. 3284 crore. The cumulative expenditure during the first four years of the Plan period i.e. 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 has been Rs. 1374.87 crore constituting less than 42 percent of the total plan allocation. The Committee also note with concern that two schemes namely, (i) Establishment of Micro Enterprise Incubation Centres for Persons with Disabilities and (ii) Grant to Association for Rehabilitation under National Trust initiative of Marketing for supporting its market activities with an approved outlay of Rs. 20 crore for each scheme have been dropped w.e.f. 2015-16. Further, Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarship schemes for students with disabilities, National overseas Scholarship Scheme and Scheme for In-service Training and Sensitization of Officials approved in the third quarter of 2014 have neither achieved in terms of expenditure nor the front of beneficiaries till 2015-16. Similarly, some other schemes like Establishment of National Institute of Universal Design and Barrier Free Environment, Top Class Education for PwDs, National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for PwDs, Establishment of College for Deaf in five regions of the country, Establishment of Centre for Disability Sports, Establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation, Free Coaching for PwDs and National Programme for PwDs where the actual expenditure (upto 29.2.2016) is 'nil'. The Department have reasoned that the non-utilization of total allocated funds are due to inadequate number of proposals received from States/UTs, receipt of incomplete proposals/late receipt of proposals of NGOs, late approval/non-approval/non-finalization of schemes and less number of**

applications received from students with disabilities in all scholarship schemes. The 12<sup>th</sup> Plan period will come to an end in the year 2017 and a huge amount of Plan outlay (approximately 58%) under these schemes is still unutilized. The Committee note that Department's performance with respect to these schemes has been dismal in first four years of the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan. The Committee feel that this situation is the result of lack of due diligence at the time of conceptualization of schemes. The reasons advanced by the Department are not new. These are perennial problems and unless more concerted and new efforts are initiated to address them, in Committee's considered view, in future too, the chances to overcome them look bleak. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department must do more ground work that too diligently besides preparing a roadmap for execution and implementation of schemes to achieve the optimal physical and financial performance because these schemes are primarily meant for educational, economic and social development of PwDs.

## CHAPTER - III

### NATIONAL INSTITUTES (NIs)

3.1 There are seven National Institutes under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities working in the field of disability. National Institutes are autonomous bodies established for different types 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. The seven National Institutes are as follows:-

- i. National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun
- ii. National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai
- iii. Swami Vivekanand National Institute for the Rehabilitation, Training and Research (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack
- iv. National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (NIHH), Mumbai
- v. National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad
- vi. National Institute for the Orthopedically Handicapped (NIOH), Kolkata
- vii. Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Institute for the Physically Handicapped, IPH, New Delhi.

3.2 As regards the details of Budget allocation made for the National Institutes and actual expenditure (Plan) incurred for the last three years and BE for the year 2016-17, the following information was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
2013-2014	75.00	98.70	87.92
2014-2015	105.00	87.00	78.97
2015-2016	105.25	106.00	82.19
2016-2017	113.00	--	--

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

3.3 In the above context, the Committee asked about the reasons for less utilization of funds allocated to National Institutes from 2013-14 to 2015-16. In response, the Department explained that the funds could not be fully utilized due to lack of proposals received from the National Institutes under North East region, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes heads.

3.4 The Committee further asked regarding specific steps taken by the Department for obtaining sufficient number of proposals in time from the National Institutes. In reply, the Department stated as under :-

"All the National Institutes have been instructed from time to time to utilize the full amount allocated under NE, SC and ST head. Executive Council of the respective NIs has approved the plan of action for timely/full utilization of funds under these heads. It is mentioned that Rs.26.25 crore has been allocated to National Institutes under SC/ST head during 2015-16 and against that, an amount of Rs.25.43 lakh (97%) has been released during 2015-16. As regard NE head, an amount of Rs.700.00 lakh has been allocated under NE head during 2015-16, out of which Rs.626.00 lakh has been released to National Institutes. Special efforts will be made to achieve 100 % in SC, ST & NE".

3.5 As regards the funds released and utilized by the Institutes under Plan Head and number of beneficiaries from the year 2013-14 to 2015-16, the following detailed statements were furnished to the Committee :-

(Rs. in crore)

S.No.	Name of NIs	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
		Released	Utilization	Released	Utilization	Released	Utilization
1.	NIVH	19.80	18.75	16.12	20.31	20.12	19.88
2.	NIOH	10.20	8.28	12.61	13.60	16.85	17.48
3.	NIMH	12.60	9.68	8.40	10.01	11.62	13.85
4.	NIEPMD	9.26	8.33	9.07	22.34	15.52	14.51
5.	SVNIRTAR	16.48	16.07	13.77	13.31	19.60	16.87
6.	AYJNIHH	13.30	12.87	11.75	15.59	13.08	12.71
7.	PDUIPH	6.28	7.30	7.25	6.85	7.49	7.70
	<b>Total</b>	<b>87.92</b>	<b>81.28</b>	<b>78.97</b>	<b>102.01</b>	<b>104.27</b>	<b>103.00</b>

Number of persons benefited by the National Institutes from the year 2013-14 and 2015-16 are as under:-

S. No	Name of the Institute	Number of beneficiaries		
		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 as on 31.01.16
1	National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun	214990	220177	163311
2	National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata	51076	194691	131951
3	Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai	96980	94740	73750
4	National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad	163268	162640	110788
5	Swami Vivekanand National Institute for the Rehabilitation Training and Research, Cuttack	220939	215963	219708

6	Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Institute for Physically Handicapped, New Delhi	75690	74837	69735
7	National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai	67298	88464	103600

3.6 When the Committee desired to know the parameters and benchmark required for declaring the National Institutes as Institutes of National Importance, the Department is their written replies stated as under :-

"Before a proposal for making the existing seven National Institutes for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) as of National importance, it has been felt necessary to first assess whether the existing infrastructure facilities of these Institutes are sufficient for their up gradation and how much additional manpower, etc. are required for making them Institutes of National importance. As such, it has been decided by the Ministry to carry out the work study of the National Institutes by the Study Inspection Unit of Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure)".

3.7 The Committee enquired about the present status of the recommendations of Baswan Committee and work study in respect of each National Institute. In response, the Department submitted as under :-

"The recommendations of the Baswan Committee are to make the existing seven National Institutes for the Persons with Disabilities as Institutions of National importance. As these recommendations have far reaching implications requiring sufficient absorption capacity of the Institute, it has been felt necessary to first assess whether the existing infrastructure facilities of these Institutes are sufficient for their up gradation and how much additional manpower, etc. are required for making them Institutes of National importance. Therefore, Ministry decided to get the work study of the National Institutes by the Study Inspection Unit (SIU) of Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure) except Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Institute for Physically Handicapped (PDUIPH), Delhi and

National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai. The required information in the prescribed format in respect of all National Institutes except PDUIPH and NIEPMD has already been sent to SIU, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure for work study. The status of work study of each National Institute each as under:-

**Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (AYJNIHH), Mumbai**

The work study material submitted by AYJNIHH, Mumbai was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, intimated that information furnished by the Institute has been examined and sought certain clarifications. The clarification sought by SIU has been forwarded to SIU vide letter dated 08.12.2014. The SIU work study report is awaited.

**Swami Vivekanand National Institute for Rehabilitation and Training (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack**

The work study material submitted by SVNIRTAR, Cuttack was forwarded to SIU Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure alongwith additional information sought by them. SIU telephonically informed the Institute that the team could not visit the Institute in August, 2015 due to heavy workload of the Department and shortage of manpower. SIU work study report is awaited.

**National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun**

Study Inspection Unit team visited NIVH, Dehradun from 24.03.2015 to 27.03.2015 for on the spot study. Preliminary report by the SIU has been received and the Institute has sent comments on the preliminary report vide letter dated 20.08.2015. However, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU), has sought certain information for finalizing the recommendation of SIU.

The information sought by SIU has since been received from NIVH and furnished to SIU M/o Finance, vide O.M. dated 06.11.2015. The final SIU report is awaited.

### **National Institute for Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad**

SIU Team of the Ministry of Finance has completed inspection in the month of February, 2016 at Regional Center, NOIDA and Lajpat Nagar of NIMH. SIU team will visit NIMH Headquarters soon. SIU work study report is awaited.

### **National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped (NIOH), Kolkata**

The Department have requested NIOH, Kolkata to furnish the preliminary and basic data for onward transmission to Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure (SIU) for conducting the work study of the Institute. The information has been received from the NIOH, Kolkata and work study material submitted by NIOH, Kolkata was forwarded to Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure. Further, SIU has requested to furnish the complete preliminary and basic data in proforma prescribed by SIU, at the earliest so that work study of NIOH may be conducted. The requisite information has been sent to SIU on 29.09.2015 and requested to expedite the task of work study of NIOH, Kolkata. The inspection is still pending".

### **Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Institute for Physically Handicapped, New Delhi**

The Study Inspection Unit (SIU), Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure has already completed work study of PDUIPH, New Delhi. Based on the SIU report 27 posts have been created in the Institute.

### **National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Chennai**

The work study of the NIEPMD is not required since the Institute was established only in 2005.



**3.8 The Committee note that during the year 2015-16, an allocation of Rs. 106 crore was made for seven National Institutes working in the field of various disabilities . Out of Rs. 106 crore, the Department have released Rs. 104.27 crore to National Institutes for catering the needs of disabled persons and providing various types of services to them. The Committee are happy to note that the Department have been able to spend 98.37 percent of the Budget allocation for the year 2016-17 under National Institutes. However, the Committee are concerned that at individual level, some of the National Institutes have not been able to achieve their targets. In this context, the Committee find that Rs. 19.60 crore was released to Swami Vivekanand National Institute for Rehabilitation and Training (SVNIRTAR) in 2015-16 out of which only Rs. 16.87 crore has been utilized by the Institute. In terms of beneficiaries, the Committee find that all the Institutes except SVNIRTAR and National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD) have shown lower figures in 2015-16 as compared to 2014-15. The Committee, therefore, desire that since all National Institutes directly under the purview of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, they may be directed to give wide publicity to various training programmes, educational, vocational and rehabilitation services given by them to disabled people through print and electronic media, in rural and remote areas also, so that maximum disabled person could avail the benefit of their services.**

**3.9 The Committee note that all the National Institutes are proposed as the Institutes of National Importance as recommended by the Baswan Committee and**

**the Department is getting the work study done by the Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) of Department of Expenditure to assess the absorption capacity of the existing infrastructure facilities of Institutes. The Committee were informed that the report of the SIU in respect of five National Institutes, i.e. Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (AYJNIHH), Swami Vivekanand National Institute for Rehabilitation and Training (SVNIRTAR), National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), National Institute for Mentally Handicapped (NIMH) and National Institute for the Orthopedically Handicapped (NIOH) is still awaited. During the examination of Demands for Grants for the year 2014-2015, the Committee were also informed that work study of these Institutes by SIU was under process. The Committee are not happy with the pace at which the Department is going on this important issue which reflects on the seriousness of the Department too. The Committee, therefore, impress upon the Department to pursue with the Department of Expenditure to finalize the SIU work study urgently so that process of upgradation/modernization of these Institutes could be started without further delay.**

## CHAPTER – IV

### DEENDAYAL DISABLED REHABILITATION SCHEME (DDRS)

4.1 The Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) of the Department is a Central Sector Scheme that includes projects for Providing education and vocational training and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities. The Scheme has been operational since 1999 with the objective of ensuring effective implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act (PwD), 1995, through creating an enabling environment and encouraging non-governmental organizations through financial assistance for undertaking projects for the empowerment of the Persons with Disabilities.

4.2 The following statement showing the scheme-wise details of plan outlay and expenditure for the last three years and BE for the year 2016-17 was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
2013-2014	124.85	90.00	63.64
2014-2015	90.00	50.50	50.08
2015-2016	60.00	51.00	34.03
2016-2017	45.00	-	-

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

4.3 It has been observed from the above statement, there is a huge cut in funds at RE stage in the last three years and during 2013-14 and 2015-16, there have been shortfalls to the tune of Rs. 26.36 crore and 16.97 crore respectively in the utilization of outlay vis-à-vis the RE provision.

4.4 In the above context, the Committee asked the precise reasons for less utilization of funds in the scheme. The Department in their written replies submitted the reasons for shortfall in the scheme are as under :-

- (i) Non-receipt of proposals along with the requisite documents etc. from the State Governments/UTs with their recommendation in time and delay/non-submission of mandatory requisite documents/clarifications etc. from the Organization(s) and the State Government.
- (ii) State Governments/UTs also do not forward adequate number of proposals in time.
- (iii) The proposals forwarded by the State Governments/UTs are having deficiencies, such as some columns of the Inspection Report are left blank.

Delay by several State Governments like Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra etc. in processing proposals online on the Department's portal.

4.5 When the Committee desired to know about the measures taken/proposed to remove the impediments faced during 2015-16 so as to maximize utilization of funds in the above scheme during 2016-17, the Department submitted as under :-

"The Department have developed a centralized on-line portal [www.ngograntsje.gov.in](http://www.ngograntsje.gov.in). All applications by NGOs seeking Grant-in-aid (GIA) under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) are being invited and tracked/monitored through online process in the NGO portal from financial year 2014-15 onwards. Continuous follow up with State slow on online portal is being taken up for expeditious processing of proposals.

The Department will take up with the State Governments/UTs Administrators to send the proposals of NGOs along with their recommendation

at the earliest by June, 2016. Early receipt of proposals will ensure timely and full utilization of funds".

**(i) Financial assistance to NGOs under the scheme**

4.6 The Committee were informed that under DDRS, financial assistance is provided to NGOs for providing various services to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). As regards details of funds released to NGOs during the last three years under DDRS, the following information was furnished to the Committee :-

<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of NGOs/VOs</b>	<b>Grant in aid released (Rs. in lakh)</b>
2012-13	518	4699.56
2013-14	550	6364.09
2014-15	640	5008.04

4.7 It has been seen from the above details, the number of NGOs/VOs has increased from 550 in 2013-14 to 640 in 2014-15, whereas Grant-in-aid has decreased from Rs. 6364.09 lakh in 2013-14 to Rs. 5008.04 lakh in 2014-15.

4.8 In the above context, when the Committee sought for reasons, the Department in their written replies stated as under :-

"Main reason for decrease in Grant-in-aid (GIA) for the year 2014-15 is due to non-receipt of complete proposals in time with recommendation from the state Governments/UTs and non-submission of complete requisite mandatory documents/clarifications by the Organization. However, as regards 2013-14 when lesser numbers of NGOs were released grant in aid whereas the total GIA was higher vis-à-vis 2014-15, it has been primarily due to the fact that a large number of backlog cases with substantial amount were cleared in 2013-14".

4.9 When the Committee desired to know whether any evaluation study has been conducted by the Department to evaluate the performance and monitoring the

functioning of these NGOs/VOs under DDRS and what are the findings of the study, the Department in their written replies submitted as under :-

"Evaluation of the Scheme was taken up by the Gfk Mode Private Ltd., Mumbai. On receipt of the Evaluation Report of the Evaluation of the Scheme, it has been observed that the report is incomplete and no concrete recommendation has been made in the report. A notice has been sent to the Evaluating Agency for blacklisting the firm on 8.03.2016".

4.10 The following statement showing the State-wise details of number of beneficiaries covered under the DDRS for the last three years is furnished to the Committee :-

<b>State-wise Physical target Achieved under DDRS during the last three years</b>				
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of the State</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>		
		<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	21668	20613	19706
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	1926	0
3	Assam	1452	1908	3289
4	Bihar	801	1218	555
5	Chhattisgarh	216	984	527
6	Delhi	2850	3950	3349
7	Goa	201	108	170
8	Gujarat	5541	4636	1973
9	Haryana	1213	10640	13324
10	Himachal Pradesh	1214	1836	300
11	Jammu & Kashmir	54	50	352
12	Jharkhand	326	180	446
13	Karnataka	4650	7290	1324

14	Kerala	2706	7404	9849
15	Madhya Pradesh	22709	767	2062
16	Maharashtra	7865	10350	2799
17	Manipur	2416	4751	4111
18	Meghalaya	1009	243	710
19	Mizoram	35	40	562
20	Orissa	7517	11199	5142
21	Pondicherry	225	115	222
22	Punjab	985	101	1948
23	Rajasthan	2255	3143	5826
24	Tamil Nadu	6347	37654	1627
25	Telangana	Included at SI No. 1 under Andhra Pradesh		12344
26	Tripura	147	188	89
27	Uttar Pradesh	20333	7968	5918
28	Uttrakhand	2527	498	1152
29	West Bengal	33430	27039	1900
	DDRC	0	94000	80000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>154692</b>	<b>260799</b>	<b>181576</b>

4.11 It is seen from the above statement that in most of the States, the number of beneficiaries has decreased in the year 2014-15 as compared to 2013-14. The States in which the number of beneficiaries has gone down in 2014-15 are Tamil Nadu, west Bengal, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Karnataka, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. However, in Madhya Pradesh, there are 22709 beneficiaries in 2012-13 which were reduced to 767 in 2013-14 and again increased to 2062 in 2014-15.

## **Establishment of new District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs)**

4.12 The Committee have been informed that the Department provide assistance for setting up District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) to create infrastructure and capacity building at the District level for providing rehabilitation services to PwDs. The DDRCs are funded under SIPDA Scheme for an initial period of three years and thereafter under DDRS. The Department have stated that during the years 2010-11 & 2011-12, 100 un-served districts were indentified for setting up new DDRCs and concerned State Governments were requested in June, 2010 to send proposals for setting up new DDRCs. Sanction has been given for establishment of 72 new DDRCs in 16 States and 47 DDRCs are yet to be set up.

4.13 The Committee then sought to know the reasons for such a poor response from States towards an important scheme. In reply, the Department submitted as under :-

"For Establishment of District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) funds are sanctioned under the SIPDA scheme of the Department which is a Central Sector Scheme. Funds are released on the recommendation of the District/State Authorities to the Implementing Agency of the District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) directly by this Department. As per provisions of the DDRC scheme, the Implementing Agency may preferably be the District Red Cross Society or any such autonomous body of the State Government or a reputed NGO. The Implementing Agency is to be headed by the District Management Team (DMT) under the supervision of the District Magistrate of the District concerned. The State Governments are expected to play a more proactive role in the effective working of the DDRCs as also to suitably supplement the honorarium and other requirements of the DDRCs as also to authorize the District Collectors to make interim advances out of the local funds at their disposal to tide over the difficulties due to procedural delays in release of central funds. Except 2 States, no other State Government supplements the fund requirements of DDRCs set up under the scheme in their State".



4.14 The Department further stated that to receive the complete proposals in time by the States, the matter was taken up with all the States in the beginning of financial year. The issue was also taken up during meetings with the State representatives from time to time.

4.15 The Committee then desired to be apprised of the steps taken by the Department for setting up of 47 DDRCs and how many DDRCs have actually been set up till date. In reply, the Department informed as under :-

"Against the 47 remaining districts out of the list of the 100 identified list of 2010-11, 7 more DDRCs have been set up. Therefore, 40 DDRCs against this list remains to be set up. However, setting up of DDRCs requires making available rent free accommodation of minimum of 150 sq.mt preferably with accessibility feature in the district hospital. The District Management Team headed by the DM is also required to identify and recommend suitable Implementing Agency to run the DDRC, to recruit staff prescribed under the scheme on honorarium basis on contract. Fulfillment of all these requirements take considerable time resulting in delay in setting up of DDRCs.

As requests have been received from some States for inclusion of some more districts in the list for setting up of DDRCs, these requests were considered and it has been decided during 2014-15 to include 17 more districts on first come first serve basis against the districts where DDRCs are yet to be set up in the list of 100".

**4.16. The Committee find that there has been a continuous downward trend in the expenditure under DDRS for the last three years. In 2013-14, the actual expenditure was Rs. 63.64 crore against BE of Rs. 124.85 crore and RE of Rs. 90 crore whereas in 2014-15, the expenditure was Rs. 50.08 crore against BE of Rs. 90 crore and RE of Rs. 50.50 crore. Similarly in 2015-16, the actual expenditure till 29.2.2016 was merely Rs. 34.03 crore vis-à-vis BE of Rs. 60 crore and RE of Rs. 51 crore. As far as number of beneficiaries is concerned, the statement furnished by the Department reveals that the major States namely, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, etc. have shown less number of beneficiaries year after year. The Committee feel that this downward trend has been depriving the target population of the benefits of the scheme. The Committee take into account the contention of the Department that the root cause of underutilization of funds under DDRS is non/delayed receipt of State Governments recommendations. The Committee are of the firm view that there is not only lack of coordination between Central and State agencies but also lack of concern and sensitiveness on the part of all Stakeholders towards PwDs. The Committee feel that DDRS is one of the major schemes for disabled persons and impediments in smooth functioning and proper implementation of the scheme be forethought and analyze so that funds meant for the scheme could be utilized optimally. Needless to say there has to be more frequent interactions between the Department with the concerned State Governments to tackle the issue of delayed receipts by them.**

**4.17 Since NGOs/VOs play a very important role in implementation of Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), the Committee feel that a comprehensive study is not only imperative but also need of the hour to evaluate the performance of these NGOs/VOs besides monitoring their funding. The Committee were surprised to note that only one evaluation study was conducted by the Department and that too an incomplete one and no concrete recommendation was made in the study report. The Committee are unable to understand why and how this firm/company (namely, Gfk Mode Private Limited) was given contract without verifying its credentials properly and then blacklisting it. The Committee recommend that the Department should conduct a fresh comprehensive study in a time bound manner on the functioning of NGOs/VOs under DDRS for effective implementation of the scheme.**

## CHAPTER – V

### ARTIFICIAL LIMB MANUFACTURING CORPORATION (ALIMCO)

5.1 ALIMCO is a 'not for profit' motive company working for the past 42 years, manufacturing various types of most cost effective ISI marked Assistive Devices on mass scale. ALIMCO has been distributing these Assistive Devices for empowering and restoring the dignity of the Persons with Disabilities to cater to Orthopedic Impairment, Hearing Impairment, Visual Impairment and Intellectual Development across the country, covering all States and Union Territories, under various Government Schemes, CSR Projects of Corporate Sector, utilization of MPLAD Funds, State Government, National Institutes, Dealer Network, NGOs etc. The Corporation has served around 43 lakh PwDs so far and is currently serving around 1.5 lakh PwDs every year on an average.

5.2 The Corporation has covered 70,765 beneficiaries (51,244 male and 19,521 female) in the financial year 2014-15 under ADIP scheme through 305 camps covering 21 States/UTs.

5.3 As regards the details of Budget allocation made for ALIMCO and expenditure incurred for the past three years and BE for 2016-17, the following information was furnished to the Committee:-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	38.00	38.00	0.00
<b>2014-2015</b>	20.00	0.01	0.00
<b>2015-2016</b>	21.00	5.00	3.58
<b>2016-2017</b>	5.00	-	-

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

5.4 As is seen from the above statement, there is 'nil' utilization of funds in 2013-14 while during 2015-16 out of Rs. 5.00 crore, the actual expenditure is 3.58 crore. The Budget Estimates is also decreased to Rs. 5 crore in 2016-17 against Rs. 21 crore BE in 2015-16.

5.5 In the above context, the Committee desired to know the reasons for 'nil' expenditure and less utilization of funds for the last three years and decreasing BE to only Rs. 5 Crore in 2016-17 as against Rs. 21 crore BE in 2015-16. The Department in their reply submitted that "the scheme came into operation after approval of the SFC w.e.f. 12.8.2015. As such the budget allocation in the preceding years could not be utilized since the scheme was not in operation. The utilization of funds during 2015-16 has been total of the RE allocation of Rs 5 crore".

5.6 The Committee find that as regards availability of funds to ALIMCO for its modernization, the Department have issued an order on 12.08.2015 with the total cost of Rs.286 crore, out of which Rs.200 crore will be given by the Department since most of its infrastructure, such as, plant/machinery and technology etc. has become obsolete. As per the order, the Ministry is required to release Rs.200 crore as grant-in-aid by the year 2017-18. An amount of Rs 86.39 crore is to be met by ALIMCO out of its internal resources along with the liability for cost escalation, if any.

When asked about the progress made on modernization of ALIMCO, the Department stated that, "the modernization work was started in the month of September, 2015. ALIMCO issued the Letter of Intent (LOI) to M/s. Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. (EPIL), New Delhi, a CPSU for Civil consultant for Modernization of ALIMCO on 17.3.2016. Preliminary estimation work has been initiated by EPIL. Regarding plant and machinery consultation, the tendering process is in progress and the contract for plant and machinery consultation is being released by 06.4.2016".

5.7 Regarding the completion of the modernization process of ALIMCO, the Department stated that as per the Implementation road map of Modernization Plan, total duration of the project is 37 months from the date of release of 1<sup>st</sup> installment of grants-

in-aid by the Ministry. The 1<sup>st</sup> installment of grants-in-aid for Rs.3.58 crore was released on 09.09.2015.

**5.8 The Committee note that the Budget allocation of Rs. 38 crore and Rs. 1 lakh was made in 2013-14 and 2014-15 respectively under ALIMCO scheme but the amount could not be utilized as the scheme was not operational during these years. The Department have not elaborated the reasons for non-operational of ALIMCO scheme. Though, the Department have intimated that the scheme came into operation after approval of the SFC w.e.f. 12.8.2015 and on same day they have issued an order for modernization of ALIMCO with the total cost of Rs. 286 crore. The modernization process is to be completed within 37 months from the date of release of 1<sup>st</sup> instalment of Grant-in-aid which was released on 9.9.2015. The Committee feel that the modernization process of ALIMCO could have been completed in phased manner to obviate the necessity of closing the scheme. As ALIMCO is involved in production of various assistive devices to help the disabled persons in their day-to-day functioning, the Committee, therefore, desire that the Department must ensure that the process of modernization of ALIMCO be completed within a stipulated time without closing the operations of ALIMCO completely as it would adversely affect the PwDs in a big way, approximately 1.5 lakh per year.**

## CHAPTER – VI

### SCHEME ARISING OUT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT, 1995 (SIPDA)

6.1 The grants-in-aid are provided under this Scheme to State Governments and various other bodies, set up by the Central and State Governments, including Autonomous Bodies and Universities, to support activities, pursuant to implementation of the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, particularly relating to rehabilitation and provision of barrier-free access. The District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) and Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs) set up by the Department are also provided support under this scheme.

6.2 The Committee were informed that the following schemes/activities are running under the SIPDA scheme :-

- (i) Proposals for creation of barrier free environment in Government Buildings/ Institutions and to make Govt. websites accessible to PwDs.
- (ii) To establish early diagnostic and intervention centres.
- (iii) Skill Development Training Programme for PwDs.
- (iv) One time grant for offices of State Commissioner for PwDs.
- (v) Funding to Composite Regional Centres
- (vi) Funding to District Disability Rehabilitation Centres.
- (vii) Accessible India Campaign.
- (viii) Universal ID Project for Persons with Disabilities.
- (ix) Financial assistance for any other activity, related to rehabilitation, education, employment and social security specified in PwD Act, for which assistance is not being provided by any existing scheme.



6.3 The following statement showing the scheme-wise details of plan outlay and Expenditure during the last three years and BE 2016-17 was furnished to the committee:-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	105.00	65.00	47.71
<b>2014-2015</b>	80.00	61.41	43.09
<b>2015-2016</b>	135.00	99.00	54.72
<b>2016-2017</b>	193.00	-	-

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

6.4 As may be seen from the above statement that there has been continuous cut in BE funds at RE stage for the last three years and also underutilization of funds under the scheme each year.

6.5 In the above context, the Committee desired to know about the reasons for continuous cut in BE and shortfall of funds under this scheme. The Department in their written replies submitted that, "the actual funds released during 2015-16 is Rs.69.42 crore as on 31.3.2016. Non-receipt of Utilization Certificates in respect of grants released during the previous years is a major factor for under utilization of funds under the Grant-in-aid to States and Grant-in-aid for North East of SIPDA Scheme. It is submitted in this context that Utilization Certificates for amount of Rs.64.02 crore in respect of grant-in-aid released up to the year 2014-15 are pending with 26 States/UTs. A number of proposals are received from the States/UTs and various organizations for release of GIA under the SIPDA Scheme every year but all the proposals are not cleared because the concerned States/UTs have not furnished the pending UCs in respect of previous grants. Further, the proposals received are also not complete in all respects due to non-receipt of complete proposals, including the utilization certificates, funds are not released in time and the funds are reduced in the RE".

6.6 The Committee then asked about the measures taken to overcome this problem, the Department explained as under :-

"The Ministry is constantly monitoring and making all efforts by reminding the defaulter States/UTs from time to time. During each year, in conference of States/UTs Social Welfare Secretaries the issues relating to SIPDA Scheme such as submission of proposals in time, utilization of funds and submission of UCs in time are raised. The State Governments have been time and again requested to furnish the Utilization Certificates and also the progress report in respect of the earlier releases. During 2014-15, Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E) also apprised all the Chief Ministers vide D.O. letter dated 06.8.2014 about the status of pending Utilization Certificates with the concerned States/UTs. The issue of pending utilization certificates was also taken up in the meeting with the Ministers of Social Welfare Departments of all the States/UTs on 23.8.2014. To further follow up of pending utilization certificates, the matter has been taken up with all the Chief Secretaries of State Governments/Union Territories and Secretary of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region vide Secretary (DEPwD)'s D.O. letter dated 18.2.2016. Due to constant efforts with defaulters States/UTs, the Department is able to release Rs. 69.42 crores during 2015-16".

**(i) Schemes/activities undertaken under SIPDA scheme**

6.7 When asked to furnish the details of funds allocated for the SIPDA scheme during the last four years and in the year 2015-16, funds released and organizations benefitted, the following information was furnished to the Committee :-

<b>Year</b>	<b>Budget Estimates</b>	<b>Revised Estimates</b>	<b>Funds Released</b>	<b>Number of States/Organizations benefitted</b>
2012-13	100.00 crore	20.00 crore	20.03 crore	27
2013-14	105.00 crore	65.00 crore	47.71 crore	76
2014-15	80.00 crore	61.41 crore	43.09 crore	57
2015-16	135.00 crore	99.00 crore	69.42 crore	72

6.8 As regards making all heritage sites accessible to PwDs under SIPDA scheme, the Department in their written replies submitted as under " :-

"Grant-in-aid for Rs.2.50 crore during 2010-11 and Rs.2.56 crore during 2012-13 was released to Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) for creation of barrier free environment in the 31 Centrally protected world heritage sites and other ticketed monuments. The Director General, Archaeological Survey of India has informed that the amount of Rs. 2.50 crores and 2.56 crores released to the ASI, have been fully utilized up to 2014-15.

As a part of Accessible Indian Campaign and in order to make monuments, museums and other archaeological sites accessible to PwDs, the Department have taken up the matter with Ministry of Culture vide Secretary (DEPWD)'s D.O. letter dated 27.7.2015 requesting them to send proposals for access audit and accessibility conversion under the SIPDA Scheme. A meeting in this regard has also been held in the Department on 16.9.2015".

6.9 The Committee were further informed that the Department have launched the National Action Plan for skill training of Persons with Disabilities in collaboration with Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 with a target of skilling 5 lakh PwDs from the year 2015-16 to 2017-18 and 20 lakh PwDs from the year 2018-19 to 2021-22.

6.10 The Committee then sought to know the measures taken/proposed to ensure to achieve the target of skilling 25 lakh PwDs by 2021-22 and the road map prepared in this regard. In response the Department submitted that skill training of PwDs is implementing through following modes :-

1. Training organized by NHFDC through State Governments owned or Government recognized training institutions.

2. Through the National Institutes and Composite Regional Centres of the DEPwD.
3. Through the National Action Plan for Skill Development of PwDs.
4. Skill training by Ministry of Skill Development under PKVY. The National Action Plan for Skill development of PwDs, launched in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship on 21<sup>st</sup> march 2015, envisages the following targets:

- 2015-16: 1 lakh
- 2016-17: 1.5 Lakh
- 2017-18: 2.5 Lakh

**Sub-Total 5 Lakhs**

- 2018-19 to 2021-22: @5 lakhs each year = 20 lakh

Grand Total = 25 Lakhs

The above targets presume that the training capacity of the department will substantially increase to about 5 lakhs a year once a robust platform for online skill training is ready by the year 2018.

**(ii) Composite Regional Centres (CRCS)**

6.11 Eight Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) for Persons with Disabilities have been established at Bhopal, Lucknow, Guwahati, Srinagar, Sundernagar, Patna, Ahmedabad and Kozhikode to provide comprehensive rehabilitation services for all persons with disabilities and impart training under one roof, as these regions lacked institutional infrastructure.

6.12 As regards the number of beneficiaries and expenditure incurred on each of these CRCs for the last three years, the following detailed statement was furnished to the Committee :-

S. No.	Name of CRC	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16 (as on 29.02.2016)
1	CRC, Guwahati	18264	22257	24178
2	CRC, Sundernagar	22513	38630	28871
3	CRC, Bhopal	11575	11029	11675
4	CRC, Srinagar	24784	20431	32150
5	CRC, Lucknow	2702	3335	7304
6	CRC, Patna	14199	17450	13988
7	CRC, Ahmedabad	3342	4210	4644
8	CRC, Kozhikode	13760	18161	10355

Statement showing the details of major activities, organizations benefitted and amount released under SIPDA scheme from 2012-13 to 2015-16

Activities	2012-13		2013-14		2014-15		2015-16	
	No. covered	Amount released Rs.	No. covered	Amount released Rs	No. covered	Amount released Rs	No. covered	Amount released Rs
DDRCs	4	352.00	37	518.33	20	229.19	15	158.66
CRCs	2	161.62	6	678.22	8	1312.20	10	2950.06
Barrier free	10	1489.73	20	3377.58	12	971.71	16	1123.49
Skill training	nil	nil	(03) 570 Benefi ciaries	36.38	(02) 9000 Benefi ciaries	1022.94	(13) 26,572 Benefi ciaries	2203.73
Universal ID	nil	nil	nil	nil	01	350.00	02	42.64
Strengthening of Office of	nil	nil	08	94.43	09	82.27	06	77.61

State CCPD								
Early Diagnostic Centre	nil	nil	01	66.20	01	99.00	03	38.38
Others	nil	nil	nil	nil	04	241.69	07	347.61
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2003.35</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>4771.14</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>4349.00</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>6942.18</b>

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

6.13 Further, the Department in their written replies stated as under :-

"The Ministry is also in the process for opening of three new Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) apart from National Institutes which are as follows :-

- (i) **CRC, Rajnandagaon, Chhattisgarh** – Department *vide* order dated 22.8.2015 has approved setting up of Composite Regional Centre at Rajnandagaon in Chhattisgarh under supervision of Swami Vivekananda National Institute for Rehabilitation Training (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack which an autonomous body under this Department along with filling up of 19 various posts on contract basis under the provision of GFR, 2005.
- (ii) **CRC, Nellore Andhra Pradesh** – Department *vide* order dated 17.12.2015 has approved setting up of Composite Regional Centre at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh under supervision of National Institute for Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad which an autonomous body under this Department along with filling up of 19 various posts on contract basis under the provision of GFR, 2005.
- (iii) **CRC, Davangere, Karnataka** – Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure has approved 19 various posts for CRC, Davangere, Karnataka. The proposal for setting up of CRC, Davangere, Karnataka is under process".

**6.14 The Committee note that various programmes/activities like creation of barrier free environment in Government buildings and making of Government website accessible to PwDs, establishment of early diagnostics and intervention centres, Skill Development Training Programme for PwDs, Accessible India Campaign, Universal ID Project for Persons with Disabilities are running under the SIPDA scheme. Against the RE of Rs. 99 crore, actual expenditure was only Rs. 54.72 crore under the scheme. The Committee are concerned to note that there has been continuously slashing of Budgetary allocation under the SIPDA scheme at RE stage for the last three years. The Committee are unable to comprehend the reasons as to why funds to the tune of Rs. 44.28 crore have remained unutilized during the last year, keeping in view the fact that so many schemes/activities are being implemented under the SIPDA scheme. The reasons given by the Department for less utilization of funds are non-receipt of pending Utilization Certificates by States/UTs and incomplete proposal/late receipt of proposals of NGOs. The Committee are not satisfied with the reasons attributed by the Department for underutilization of funds. The Committee find that issues like non-receipt of pending UCs, late and incomplete proposals from NGOs, etc. are perennial in nature and Department's routine interactions and instructions are not making much headway. The Committee, therefore, desire that the Department must change their strategy and if need be, amend their procedures to the extent that all the proposals alongwith complete documents are received not only from NGOs but pending UCs are also timely received from the State Governments/UTs which would lead to optimal utilization of funds intended for the welfare of PwDs.**

**6.15 The Department informed the Committee that they have launched the National Action Plan for skill training of PwDs in collaboration with Ministry of Skill development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2015 with a target of skilling 5 lakh PwDs from the year 2015-16 to 2017-18. The target for providing skill training to PwDs in the year 2015-16 was 1 lakh. Further, as a part of Accessible India Campaign and in order to make monuments, museum and other archaeological sites accessible to PwDs, the Department have requested to the Ministry of Culture to send proposals for access audit and accessibility conversion under SIPDA scheme. The Committee are of the considered opinion that access to all the important buildings is the Fundamental Right of PwDs and therefore desire that the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities should pursue the matter vigorously with the Ministry of Culture for sending proposals under SIPDA scheme expeditiously by giving them a reasonable time limit. The Committee also desire to know the numbers of PwD beneficiaries under skill training programme during the year 2015-16, State-wise.**



**6.16 The Committee note that eight Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) for PwDs have been established at Bhopal, Lucknow, Guwahati, Srinagar, Sundernagar, Patna, Ahmadabad and Kozhikode to provide comprehensive rehabilitation services for PwDs. The Department have also initiated the process of opening of three new CRCs in Rajnandgaon District (Chhattisgarh), Nellore (Andhra Pradesh) and Davanagere (Karnataka). The Committee, however, feel that keeping in view of vast number of disabled population of the country, there is an urgent need to increase the number of CRCs to cover those States also which have so far not been covered such as Rajasthan, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Punjab, Haryana, etc. The Committee also feel that keeping in view of the large population of Uttar Pradesh, one CRC in Lucknow is not enough to cater to the need of disabled persons in the State. The Committee, therefore, desire that the number of CRCs be increased substantially to empower the disabled population in all parts of the country.**

## CHAPTER - VII

### EDUCATION SCHEMES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

#### (i) National fellowship for students with disabilities

7.1 The National Fellowship Scheme for students with disabilities is a fellowship scheme for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D. courses in any University recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC). Earlier this Scheme was known as Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for Students with Disabilities. The number of fellowships to be given is 200 every year. The fellowship amount ranges from Rs. 25,000/- to Rs. 28,000/- per month. In addition, there are provisions of Escort/Reader Allowance and House Rent Allowance (wherever applicable). The duration of Fellowship: 2 years for M.Phil and 5 years for Ph.D. Selection of candidates is done by UGC. Disbursement of fellowship amount is done by the DEPwD through Canara Bank who has been designated for this purpose.

7.2 The following statement showing the scheme-wise details of plan outlay and expenditure during the last three years and BE (2016-17) was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	12.00	15.00	9.65
<b>2014-2015</b>	17.00	10.00	7.47
<b>2015-2016</b>	8.00	20.57	6.56
<b>2016-2017</b>	19.50	--	--

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

7.3 It has been seen from the above statement, there are so much variation in the trend of actual expenditure in the years 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 under the above scheme.

7.4 When the Committee asked the reasons for so much variation in actual expenditure for the last three years continuously. In reply, the Department submitted as under :-

"During the first two years the number of awardees were less than the slots available. There were 354 awardees as against 400 allotted slots. The number of awardees increased gradually as the scheme gained popularity. During the year 2015-16, the fund allocated at BE stage was Rs. 8.00 crore only out of which Rs. 6.56 crore was for General(including OBC) and SC categories. The entire amount of Rs. 6.56 crore was released. But, since the demand was more, there was shortage of funds and the fellowship amount could not be released to beneficiaries for about 4-5 months. Additional allocation at RE stage was sought for and received at the fag end of the financial year 2015-16 and Rs. 12.17 crore more was released to the beneficiaries".

7.5 The Department further stated that the students with disabilities do not prefer the claim of fellowship amount because as per the provision of the scheme the students can get selected for this fellowship before they actually join the courses of M.Phil/Ph.D. Many students join courses after they are selected for NFPwD. They are entitled to the fellowship amount only after they join the course and submit their claims in the prescribed format. Some of the candidates do not get admission also and some may dropout due to getting job etc. In addition, the claims are to be submitted periodically, some of the students fail to submit their requisite documents to prefer their claims.

7.6 As regards the details of number of beneficiaries, State-wise in the last three years under the National Fellowship for students with disabilities, the following information was furnished to the Committee :-

<b>S.NO.</b>	<b>STATE</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>
1	Andman & Nicobar	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh *	36	45	56	13
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	1	0
4	Assam	3	1	6	5
5	Bihar	14	5	18	7
6	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
7	Chattisgarh	3	1	2	0
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
9	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
10	Delhi	3	3	3	2
11	Goa	0	0	0	0
12	Gujarat	1	6	7	4
13	Haryana	6	6	5	8
14	Himachal Pradesh	2	0	2	1
15	Jammu & Kashmir	3	3	5	3
16	Jharkhand	6	2	6	4
17	Karnataka	10	7	14	12
18	Kerala	1	6	10	7
19	Lakshdweep	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	2	5	10	6
21	Maharashtra	11	12	20	17
22	Manipur	1	1	1	0
23	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
24	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
25	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
26	Odisha	11	6	10	8
27	Pondicherry	2	2	1	0
28	Punjab	1	2	6	4
29	Rajasthan	3	2	14	11
30	Sikkim	0	0	0	0
31	Telangana *	-	-	17	15

32	Tamil Nadu	11	23	23	21
33	Tripura	1	1	1	0
34	Uttar Pradesh	35	28	39	36
35	Uttrakhand	1	1	3	1
36	West Bengal	9	10	20	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>200</b>

\* For the years 2012-13 and 2013-14, the candidates selected by UGC are for erstwhile Andhra Pradesh including the State of Telangana.

7.7 The above statement revealed that the number of awardees of National Fellowship for students with disabilities has been reduced to 200 in 2015-16 from 300 in 2014-15. Many States/UTs *viz*, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Arunachal Pradesh and North Eastern Region have 'nil' beneficiaries in the year 2015-16.

7.8 In the above context, the Committee asked the reasons for such a poor response from many of the States/UTs, the Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, while tendering evidence before the Committee, submitted that their yearly target is 200.

"We have carried over the backlog of SC, ST and NE to next academic session for the last few years. So, we have completed the backlog in the year 2014-15. That is the reason why the number is 300. The demand is very large. We are trying to cater, we have provided for all the students of the current year. Next year also, we have made a sufficiently large provision to distribute all the scholarships".

**(ii) Pre-matric and Post-matric Scholarship Schemes for Students with Disabilities**

7.9 The objective of the Pre-matric and Post-matric scholarship schemes is to provide financial assistance to the students with disabilities for studying in the Pre-matric level (Class IX and X) and Post-matric level (Class XI, XII and upto Post Graduation degree/diploma level). The number of scholarships to be granted every year is 46,000 for Pre-matric level and 16,650 for Post-matric level.

7.10 The Committee were informed that the 12<sup>th</sup> Plan Outlay for Pre Matric Scheme was Rs. 194 crore and for Post Matric Scholarship Scheme was Rs. 150 crore. During the financial year 2014-15, the expenditure under both the Schemes was 'nil' and during 2015-16, out of Rs. 5 crore, the expenditure was Rs. 0.28 crore in Pre Matric Scholarship Scheme and out of Rs. 10 crore, the expenditure was only Rs. 0.96 crore under Post Matric. The BE 2016-17 is Rs. 4.00 crore in Pre Matric Scholarship Scheme and Rs. 8.00 crore in Post Matric Scholarship Scheme.

7.11 The Committee then desired to know the reasons for 'nil' expenditure in 2014-15 and very less expenditure in 2015-16. In reply, the Ministry stated as under :-

"The schemes of Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarships for students with disabilities are implemented through a web portal which was to be developed by National Information Centre(NIC). However, the said web portal could not be materialized in 2014-15 and it was decided to implement the two scholarship schemes through the concerned State Govts. The State Govts were advised to call for applications, select candidates and forward the list of selected candidates to the DEPwD for release of the scholarship amount directly to the bank accounts of the selected candidates. However, till the closure of financial year 2014-15, only 3 states namely Odisha, U.P and Manipur forwarded the list of selected candidates but their documents were not complete and hence no funds could be released in 2014-15. The amount due and admissible was released to the selected candidates of Odisha, U.P and Manipur during the next financial year 2015-16.

Simultaneously on the directions of the Prime Minister's Office, as a part of the Digital India Campaign, it was decided to implement all the scholarships schemes of Government of India through a single web portal to be developed by Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DEITY) and accordingly, a web portal was developed namely National e-Scholarship Portal. The portal was launched on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2015 when applications were invited through the said portal. The three scholarship schemes of the Department namely Pre Matric, Post Matric scholarships and Top Class Education were on-boarded on the

portal. The students had to apply only on-line, the institutions (School/College/University) had to verify the applications online, The District Welfare Officer had to forward it to the State Nodal Officer. The State Nodal Officer had to finally prepare a list of candidates within his State and forward the verified list to the Public Finance Management System (PFMS)/NSP portal online. Thereafter, the Department could start the process of releasing the scholarship amount to the selected candidates through direct benefit transfer(DBT) mode. Since there were several processes involved, the State Govt took time to send their verified list. Synchronisation of data between the NSP and PFMS portal had its own glitches. Hence the numbers of candidates were less".

7.12 As regards the number of beneficiaries and the amount of scholarship released to them in the year 2015-16, the following information was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs in lakhs**

<b>Name of Scheme</b>	<b>No. of beneficiaries</b>	<b>Amt release in 2015-16</b>
Pre-Matric	2368	160.15
Post-Matric	3777	365.02
Top Class Education	14	23.85
<b>Total</b>	<b>6159</b>	<b>549.02</b>

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

7.13 The Committee asked whether these scholarship schemes are fund based or demand based, the Department in their written replies stated as under :-

"As per the schemes of Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarships for students with disabilities, 46000 scholarship under Pre Matric scheme and 16650 scholarships under Post Matric scheme can be sanctioned every year during the 12<sup>th</sup> five year plan. These numbers have been decided considering the average cost of scholarship and the financial outlay for the respective scheme during the 12<sup>th</sup> five year plan. Hence these two schemes are fund based schemes. However, the

actual implementation of the schemes is as per the demand raised by the eligible beneficiaries through their application online.

The Schemes have been implemented through the State Governments but adequate demand was not received by the States and as a result, a large fund under Pre Matric and Post Matric Scholarship Scheme have remained unutilized".

7.14 When the Committee desired to know the reasons for such a poor response from the State Governments and steps taken by the Department to boost the demand for these scholarships, the Department submitted as under :-

"Since welfare is a State subject, the scholarship schemes of Pre-Matric, Post Matric and Top Class Education for students with disabilities are being implemented through the State Governments. This is based on the advice of the erstwhile Planning Commission. Adequate steps are being taken to create awareness among the targetted beneficiaries and the State Governments. Before the schemes were introduced comments/views of all the State Govts were invited. After the schemes were finally approved & launched, a copy of the schemes were sent to every State Governments with the request to popularize the schemes amongst the institutions and targeted beneficiaries. Every State Governments was requested to nominate a Nodal Officer who would coordinate with this Department and the beneficiaries. Further, in order to apprise the State Governments of the implementation process, five regional workshops were conducted with all State Governments/UT administrations for their capacity building in processing applications, two at Delhi and one each at Mumbai, Hyderabad and Kolkata".

7.15 The Committee desired to know the measures taken for maximum utilization of funds in the above schemes by the year 2017 and to achieve the expenditure target. In response, the Department submitted that the following actions are proposed to popularize the schemes :-

(a) The schemes will be further simplified.



- (b) The web portal through which the applications are called is being simplified to make it more user-friendly. The Department of Electronics & Information Technology and National Information Centre has already initiated action in this regard.
- (c) Advertisement will be issued in all leading newspapers all over the country, through the web sites and other media channels.
- (d) Radio-jingles will be broadcast through Radio all over India even in regional languages.

7.16 The following statement showing the number of beneficiaries, State-wise in the last two years under both the schemes was furnished to the Committee :-

S.No.	State/UT	No. of Scholarship Applications received with recommendations of State Governments			
		Pre-matric*		Post-matric*	
		2014-15	2015-16	2014-15	2015-16
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR	0	0	0	0
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	0	16	0	15
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	0	0	0
4	ASSAM	0	0	0	25
5	BIHAR	0	7	0	143
6	CHANDIGARH	0	11	0	14
7	CHHATTISGARH	0	1	0	4
8	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	0	0	0	1
9	DAMAN & DIU	0	0	0	0
10	DELHI	0	0	0	128
11	GOA	0	0	0	0

12	GUJARAT	0	12	0	32
13	HARYANA	0	0	0	38
14	HIMACHAL PRADESH	0	36	0	0
15	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	0	0	0	0
16	JHARKHAND	0	0	0	0
17	KARNATAKA	0	38	0	121
18	KERALA	0	1067	0	130
19	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0	0
20	MADHYA PRADESH	0	74	0	219
21	MAHARASHTRA	0	0	0	44
22	MANIPUR	0	0	27	0
23	MEGHALAYA	0	0	0	3
24	MIZORAM	0	0	0	0
25	NAGALAND	0	0	0	0
26	ODISHA	300	492	436	659
27	PUDUCHERRY	0	0	0	2
28	PUNJAB	0	0	0	45
29	RAJASTHAN	0	3	0	60
30	Sikkim	0	0	0	12
31	TAMIL NADU	0	0	0	0
32	TELANGANA	0	4	0	10
33	TRIPURA	0	0	0	0
34	UTTARAKHAND	0	0	0	42
35	UTTAR PRADESH	263	7	694	851
36	WEST BENGAL	0	37	0	22
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>563</b>	<b>1805</b>	<b>1157</b>	<b>2620</b>

\* There was no scholarship scheme during 2013-14

**(iii) National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Students with Disabilities**

7.17 The scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities has been launched with the objectives to provide financial assistance to the students with disabilities for pursuing studies abroad at the level of Masters' Degree and Ph.D. Twenty (20) scholarships are to be awarded every year out of which six are reserved for women candidates. The Department have informed that Parental income ceiling is Rs.6.00 lakh per annum.

7.18 The following statement showing the scheme-wise details of plan outlay and expenditure during the last three years and BE (2016-17) was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	1.00	0.05	0.00
<b>2014-2015</b>	3.00	1.00	0.00
<b>2015-2016</b>	0.50	0.50	0.00
<b>2016-2017</b>	1.00	--	--

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

**(iv) Top Class Education Scheme for PwDs**

7.19 The scheme will cover Students with Disabilities (SwDs) for pursuing studies at the level of Post Graduation degree or Diploma in any discipline. The scheme will operate in all Institutions notified by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities as institutions of excellence. For taking benefit under the scheme, Parental income ceiling is Rs. 6.00 lakh per annum.

7.20 The following statement showing the scheme-wise details of plan outlay and expenditure during the last three years and BE for the year 2016-17 was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	1.00	0.05	0.00
<b>2014-2015</b>	3.00	1.00	0.00
<b>2015-2016</b>	0.50	0.50	0.00
<b>2016-2017</b>	1.00	--	--

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

7.21 It has been observed from the above statement relating to both the schemes that there was 'nil' utilization of funds in both the schemes for the last three years continuously. When the Committee desired to know the reasons for 'nil' expenditure, the Department stated as under :-

"As regards, National Overseas Scholarship scheme is concerned, the scheme was introduced in August, 2014(2014-15), hence there could not be any expenditure in 2013-14. Though applications were invited through newspaper advertisement all over the country and through the web sites, we received only two applications during the year 2014-15. Both the applications were not found suitable for scholarship. Hence, no expenditure in 2014-15. During the year 2015-16, seventeen applications were received. The applications were placed before the Selection Committee constituted for the purpose. The selection committee selected seven applicants for award of National Overseas Scholarship. Since none of the selected candidates got admission in the foreign institutes, there could be no expenditure in 2015-16.

So far as the scheme of scholarship for Top Class Education is concerned, this scheme was introduced in the year 2015-16. The scheme was implemented through National Scholarship Portal(NSP). Since the scheme is meant for Post Graduate studies in some notified institutes of excellence, the number of applications received was 60 only which was less than the allocated 160 slots".

7.22 Responding to a pointed query of the Committee on the steps taken by the Department to give adequate publicity to these scholarships schemes and to receive maximum applications from the Students with Disabilities, the Department in their written replies submitted as under :-

"The National Overseas Scholarship scheme (NOS) was advertised in all India editions of newspapers all over India to call for applications. The schemes are also uploaded in the web sites of this Department i.e. disabilityaffairs.gov.in as well as in the web site of Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment. The schemes are circulated through the Ministry of External Affairs with the request to bring it to the notice of all Indian Embassies and High Commissions abroad. Letters have also been sent to the Universities/Institutions.

So far as the Scheme of Scholarship for Top Class Education is concerned, the scheme is being implemented through the National Scholarship Portal which is a common platform for all the Government of India scholarship schemes. Advertisements through all India editions of all leading newspapers were published to call for applications. The scheme was circulated to all 197 notified institutes of excellence".

7.23 The Committee then asked regarding the steps proposed to simplify the norms of the scheme, the Department in their written replies stated as under :-

"The following steps are proposed to simplify the norms of the scheme :-

- (a) A Group of Officers (GOO) and a Group of Secretaries (GOS) have been set up by the Cabinet Secretariat to make recommendations on simplification of the schemes and their implementation process. The committee is expected to give its final recommendations in May, 2016.
- (b) The Scheme will be re-engineered to make them user-friendly.
- (c) The web-portal will be improved by the NIC to make it more user-friendly".

7.24 The Committee were informed that three schemes viz. Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme, Post-matric Scholarship Scheme and Top Class Education Scheme are being run through the National Scholarship Portal from 2015-16 onwards.

7.25 In the above context, the Committee desired to be apprised of the number of applications received through online under each of the scheme. In reply, the Ministry have furnished the following statement showing the details of applications received from State Governments in National Scholarships Portal under the three schemes i.e. Pre-matric scholarship scheme, Post-matric scholarship scheme and Top Class Education scheme during 2015-16 :-

S. No.	State/UT	No. of Scholarship Applications received with recommendations of State Governments		
		Pre-matric	Post-matric	Top Class Education
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR	0	1	0
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	18	100	4
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	0	6	0
4	ASSAM	9	54	2
5	BIHAR	9	254	5
6	CHANDIGARH	12	14	0
7	CHHATTISGARH	2	35	0
8	DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI	0	3	0

9	DAMAN & DIU	0	1	0
10	DELHI	2	132	2
11	GOA	0	0	0
12	GUJARAT	25	46	1
13	HARYANA	0	46	2
14	HIMACHAL PRADESH	45	47	0
15	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	28	124	1
16	JHARKHAND	2	61	1
17	KARNATAKA	42	294	3
18	KERALA	1127	220	0
19	LAKSHADWEEP	0	0	0
20	MADHYA PRADESH	75	243	2
21	MAHARASHTRA	14	90	0
22	MANIPUR	0	0	0
23	MEGHALAYA	2	25	0
24	MIZORAM	1	0	0
25	NAGALAND	0	4	0
26	ODISHA	550	699	3
27	PUDUCHERRY	0	2	0
28	PUNJAB	0	64	0
29	RAJASTHAN	24	165	5
30	SIKKIM	0	12	0
31	TAMIL NADU	23	144	0
32	TELANGANA	13	77	1
33	TRIPURA	25	93	0
34	UTTARAKHAND	0	49	0
35	UTTAR PRADESH	118	984	8
36	WEST BENGAL	87	476	3
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>2253</b>	<b>4565</b>	<b>43</b>

**7.26 The Committee observe that the Department have been operating educational schemes for the Students with Disabilities such as (i) National Fellowship for Students with Disabilities (ii) Pre-matric and Post-matric Scholarship schemes for Students with Disabilities (iii) National Overseas Scholarship scheme (iv) Top Class Education scheme for PwDs. The Department informed the Committee that the 46,000 scholarships under Pre-matric Scholarship scheme and 16,650 scholarships under Post-matric Scholarship scheme can be sanctioned every year during the 12th Five Year Plan. The Committee note with concerned that in the year 2015-16 only 2368 SwDs under Pre-matric and 3777 SwDs under Post-matric scheme have been benefited. The Committee note that out of 160 slots allocated for Top Class Education scheme only 14 SwDs have availed the benefit of the scheme. The Committee were informed that a National e-scholarship Portal has been developed for applying for various scholarship schemes w.e.f. 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2015. The Department candidly admitted that as there are several processes involved and synchronization of data between NSP and PFMS Portals have their own glitches, the number of candidates for scholarships schemes was less. Since the SwDs have to apply online for scholarship schemes, the Committee feel that the web portal for scholarships schemes should be simplified as far as possible and be more user friendly for the disabled persons. The Committee, desire that the Department should make earnest efforts to remove all the snags/glitches which are being faced by the disabled students while applying for these scholarships schemes.**



## CHAPTER – VIII

### AWARENESS GENERATION AND PUBLICITY SCHEME AND INFORMATION AND MASS EDUCATION CELL SCHEME

#### (i) Awareness Generation and Publicity Scheme

8.1 Awareness Generation and Publicity Scheme was launched in September, 2014, operationlized from the financial year 2014-15 and revised in financial year 2015-16 to simplify and enhance its scope, objective and eligibility. The main objectives of the scheme are to educate PwDs and civil society about legal rights of PwDs, promote awareness and sensitize society on causes leading to disability.

8.2 As regards the details of Budget allocation made under the above scheme and actual expenditure incurred for the last three years and BE (2016-17), the following information was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	0.01	0.01	00
<b>2014-2015</b>	3.00	2.00	0.71
<b>2015-2016</b>	5.00	4.00	2.71
<b>2016-2017</b>	3.00	--	--

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

8.3 As would be seen from the above statement, there was cut in BE funds at RE stage from Rs. 3.00 crore to Rs. 2.00 crore in 2014-15 and Rs. 5.00 crore to Rs. 4.00 crore in 2015-16. Even after the reduced RE, there was 'nil' expenditure in 2013-14 and less expenditure in 2014-15 and 2015-16.

8.4 On being asked the reasons by the Committee for less utilization of funds under the above scheme during the last two years, the Department in their written reply stated that the reasons for shortfall in the above scheme as under :-

- (i) Less proposals have been received from implementing organizations in the States/UTs.
- (ii) Proposals are received with incomplete supporting papers or not in prescribed format as per scheme guidelines.
- (iii) Delayed/non-receipt of recommendation from State Governments for the proposals of non-governmental organizations as per the latest guidelines of NITI Aayog.

8.5 When the Committee desired to know the specific steps taken by the Government for effective implementation of revised Awareness Generation and Publicity schemes, the Department in their written reply submitted as under :-

- a) AGP Scheme has been revised in December, 2015 to simplify and enhance its scope, objectives, eligibility etc. to broad base the implementation for better and effective outcomes.
- (b) All Central Ministries/Departments and State Government/UTs have been requested that instructions may be issued to the organizations/corporations under their Ministry/ Department and State Government/UTs to submit the proposals for financial assistance admissible under various components of AGP Scheme.
- (c) Scheme has been uploaded on the Department's website for wider publicity of the scheme.
- (d) Yearly meetings with Principal Secretaries (dealing with Disability Department) of the States/UTs are held to publicize the schemes of this Department including Awareness Generation and Publicity Scheme.

**(ii) Information and Mass Education Cell Scheme**

8.6 The Department plans its annual strategy information and mass education cell scheme for spreading awareness about various schemes and programmes of the Department. Funds under the scheme are also used to disseminate information about

rights of the target groups of the Department. This strategy is based using print, electronic, outdoor and other forms of media for dissemination of information.

8.7 The following statement showing the scheme-wise details of Plan outlay and expenditure during the last three years and BE (2016-17) was furnished to the Committee :-

**Rs. (in crore)**

<b>Year</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>RE</b>	<b>Actual Expenditure</b>
<b>2013-2014</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>2014-2015</b>	20.00	10.00	7.37
<b>2015-2016</b>	10.00	25.00	7.63
<b>2016-2017</b>	70.00	--	--

(expenditure upto 29.2.2016)

8.8 As may be seen from the above statement, there was cut in BE fund at RE stage from Rs. 20.00 crore to Rs. 10.00 crore in 2014-15 and fund utilized is only Rs. 7.37 crore. For the year 2015-16, BE which was Rs. 10.00 crore increased to Rs. 25.00 crore at RE stage and actual expenditure was only Rs. 7.63 crore. This fiscal year Rs. 70.00 crore have been allocated in BE fund for the above scheme.

8.9 In the above context, the Committee asked the reasons for less utilization of funds in 2015-16 and reasons for seeking an amount of Rs. 70 crore in BE (2016-17). In reply, the Department submitted that out of an amount of Rs. 25 crore provided under the scheme in RE 2015-16, a total amount of Rs. 18.30 crore has been utilized.

8.10 The reasons for seeking an amount of Rs.70 crore in BE 2016-17 are as under:-

- (i) Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Act, 1995 under sections 44, 45 and 46 categorically provides for non-discrimination in transport, non-

discrimination on the road and non-discrimination in built environment respectively. United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), to which India is a signatory, under Article 9 casts obligations on the Governments for ensuring to PwDs equal accessibility. This Working Group has been constituted by UNESCAP Secretariat to monitor implementation of the Incheon Strategy “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities. Goal No. ‘3’ of Incheon Strategy framed by UNESCAP concerns “Enhance access to the physical environment, public transportation, knowledge, information and communication” for PwDs.

- (ii) Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) has been launched by the Hon’ble Prime Minister on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 2015 as a nationwide flagship campaign for achieving universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities and to create an enabling and barrier free environment with a focus and targets on three verticals, namely, (A) Accessibility of Built up Environment, (B) Transport System Accessibility and (C) Accessibility of Knowledge and ICT Ecosystem. Cabinet Secretariat has constituted a Committee of Secretaries to effectively review/monitor and creating an implementation framework for achieving the targets of Accessible India Campaign.

The Department therefore plans to pursue the Accessible India Campaign aggressively for making it a mass campaign both in urban and rural parts of India. For this an amount of Rs.60 crore has been earmarked. The remaining 10 crore is proposed to be utilized for publishing advertisements relating to other activities of the Department including organization of National Awards for the Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Camps for Distribution of Aids and Assistive Devices, Film Festivals etc.

8.11 The Committee then sought to know the strategy chalked out by the Department for full utilization of funds in 2016-17. In response, the Department in their written replies stated as under :-

The Department have prepared a strategy for full utilization of budget of Rs. 70 crore provided under the scheme in BE 2016-17 in consultation with DAVP. Details of the same are as under :-

**Proposed Media Plan for the Year 2016-17 for Accessible India Campaign**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Budget Head</b>	<b>Budget Required (Rs. In crores)</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Media Head</b>	<b>Rs. 60.00crore</b>
1	<b>Print Media</b> – Advertisements, Advertorials in leading newspapers and magazines, posters, pamphlets, folders, novelty items, etc. etc.	10.00
2.	<b>Audio-Visual Broadcasting/Telecasting</b> TV spots in DD & other leading channels	25.00
3.	<b>Radio Broadcasting</b> –AIR (FM Gold), other leading FM channels in all major cities	05.00
4.	<b>Digital Cinema and Digital Social Media Campaign</b> Cinema sports/slides; facebook, twitter etc.	05.00
5.	<b>Outdoor Publicity</b> -Hoardings in prominent places at Airports in metro cities, major Railway Stations, Bus Shelters/Terminals, Public Buildings etc. in major metro cities.	05.00
	<b>Roll out Accessible India Campaign</b> – in major cities of the country for sensitization of all key stake holders as identified (Govt. Officers, Professionals such as engineers, architects, real estate developers etc.)	10.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>Rs. 60 crore</b>

The Department have also constituted a AIC Project Management Unit by engaging a Campaign Manager, Media and Social Media Consultants, UN Accessibility Consultants to oversee the implementation of AIC. The strategy is being implemented in consultation with DAVP and the platforms of Doordarshan, All India Radio and MyGov are being used extensively to promote the Campaign and make full use of the funds in 2016-17.

**8.12 The Committee note that during 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16, the actual expenditure on Awareness Generation and Publicity Scheme was too less, even 'nil' during 2013-14. The Committee are of the considered view that if the Department are not able to spend entire funds on awareness generation and publicity of their scheme meant for the PwDs, how will they be able to avail the benefits of these schemes. The Committee desire that the Department should make all out efforts to make known the PwDs, residing even in far flung remote areas, of the welfare schemes for their benefit.**

**8.13 The Committee were informed that an amount of Rs. 70 crore have been allocated in BE fund for the Information and Mass Education Cell for this fiscal year. An amount of Rs. 60 crore has been earmarked for Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) and remaining 10 crore is to be utilized for publishing advertisements relating to other activities of the Department. The disabled population mostly in rural areas is not aware of the various welfare schemes/programmes being operated for them by the Government. As a result, they are not able to reap the benefits of these schemes. As long as PwDs are ignorant of the steps taken by the Government for their social, educational and financial upliftment, the schemes and programmes meant for their welfare have no significance. The Committee also feel that there should be proper coordination between the Central and State Governments to publicize the schemes for the welfare of PwDs more effectively in rural areas also. Keeping in view, the focus on the Accessible India Campaign, the Committee desire the**

**Department should ensure that the amount allocated under the scheme is spent fully for achieving universal accessibility for PwDs.**

## CHAPTER - IX

### IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHEMES IN NORTH EASTERN REGION

9.1 As per guidelines issued by the erstwhile 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. An amount of Rs. 56.50 crore was provided in BE 2015-16 for the schemes for benefit of the North Eastern Region and Sikkim and the amount released during 2015-16 was Rs. 42.66 crore. An amount of Rs. 70.00 crore has been provided in BE 2016-17.

9.2 The following statement showing the details of amount released under various schemes for the benefit of PwDs in NE Region for the year 2015-16 was furnished to the Committee :-

<b>Name of Scheme</b>	<b>Amount released during 2015-16 up to 31.3.2016 (Rs. in crore)</b>
ADIP Scheme	14.81
SIPDA Scheme	8.56
Awareness Generation and Publicity	4.73
DDRS	4.00
Budgetary Support to National Trust	0.10
National Institutes	6.26
NHFDC	3.15
Support for establishment/modernization of Braille Presses	0.31
RCI	0.74
Total	42.66

9.3 The Committee then desired to be apprised of the measures taken/proposed to ensure optimal achievements of targets for various schemes in North Eastern Region and full utilization of amount allocated in the year 2016-17. In response, the Department then stated that the Budget allocation during 2015-16 has been fully utilized under ADIP scheme. Keeping in view, the trend of utilization during 2015-16, the entire Budget allocation for 2016-17 under the schemes will be fully utilized.



9.4 As regards the SIPDA Scheme, the main reason for underutilization of funds under NE Region is due to pending UCs for the previous year's grants-in-aid. The Ministry is constantly monitoring the pending Utilization Certificates by reminding the defaulter States from time to time. The matter of pending Utilization Certificates has also been taken up with Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region vide Secretary (DEPwD)'s D.O. letter dated 18.2.2016. Therefore, the pending Utilization Certificates from North Eastern States are likely to be received during 2016-17 which will be resulted in further release of grant-in –aid. New activities, such as, Accessible India Campaign', Skill Development Training Programme under National Action Plan, have been added in the Scheme. New CRCs and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) are also proposed to opened. Keeping in view all these factors, the amount in the BE 2016-17 will be utilized.

9.5 As regards the details of amount allocated, amount released and number of beneficiaries under ADIP scheme and SIPDA scheme for the last five years, the following statements were furnished to the Committee :-

#### **ADIP Scheme**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Budget Estimated/Revised Estimated (Rs.in lakhs)</b>	<b>Amount released (Rs. in lakhs)</b>	<b>Number of beneficiaries</b>
2011-12	1000.00	260.36	10181
2012-13	1000.00	432.32	17167
2013-14	1000.00	467.52	20670
2014-15	1200.00	977.55	19033
2015-16	1505.00	1480.75	3438*

\*Exact number of beneficiaries received in succeeding year.

#### **SIPDA Scheme**

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Budget Allocation (Rs. in Lakh)</b>	<b>Amount released Allocation (Rs. in lakh)</b>	<b>Number of States/organizations benefitted*</b>
2011-12	500.00	167.97	4
2012-13	500.00	488.48	4
2013-14	600.00	912.26	8
2014-15	900.00	172.56	6
2015-16	1700.00	855.96	11

\*Scheme is not beneficiaries oriented

9.6 The State-wise details of funds allocated, admissible funds released and number of beneficiaries for the North Eastern Region under DDRS scheme for the last three years were as follows :-

**State-wise details of funds allocated, admissible funds released and number of beneficiaries for NE region under DDRS during the last three years**

S.No.	Name of the State	Fund Allocated(Rs. in Lakh)			Fund Released (Rs. in Lakh)			Number of Beneficiaries		
		2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
1	Arunachal Pradesh	70.00	70.00	50.00	0.00	1926.00	0.00	0	1926	0
2	Assam	990.00	990.00	300.00	1452.00	1908.00	3289.00	1452	1908	3289
3	Manipur	300.00	300.00	500.00	2416.00	4751.00	4111.00	2416	4751	4111
4	Meghalaya	110.00	110.00	100.00	1009.00	243.00	710.00	1009	243	710
5	Mizoram	40.00	40.00	50.00	35.00	40.00	562.00	35	40	562
6	Tripura	110.00	110.00	10.00	147.00	188.00	89.00	147	188	89
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1620.00</b>	<b>1620.00</b>	<b>1010.00</b>	<b>5059.00</b>	<b>9056.00</b>	<b>8761.00</b>	<b>5059.00</b>	<b>9056.00</b>	<b>8761.00</b>

**9.7 The Committee note that new activities, such as Accessible India Campaign, Skill Development Training Programme under National Action Plan have been added in the Schemes for the North Eastern Region and there is also a proposal for opening of new Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) in the Region. The Committee while appreciating the initiatives taken by the Department for the welfare of the PwDs in North Eastern Region, observe that the number of beneficiaries in North Eastern Region under DDRS during the year 2014-15 was 'nil' in Arunachal Pradesh and 89 in Tripura. The Committee, therefore, desire that more steps be taken for the identification of PwDs and effective implementation of DDRS in North Eastern Region specifically in the States of Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura so that the target of Rs. 4.50 crore set for the year 2016-17 under the above scheme could be achieved.**

## CHAPTER - X

### NEW SCHEMES/INITIATIVES

10.1 Many new schemes/programmes have been launched by the Department during the year 2015-16 and 2016-17 i.e. Establishment of college for Deaf in five regions of the Country, National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation, Centre for Disability Sports and Free Coaching for Students with Disabilities and GHARAUNDA scheme for providing lifelong shelter and care to adult PwDs.

10.2 When the Committee desired to know the mechanism adopted by the Department for these new/revised schemes so as to avoid the underutilization of funds in the year 2016-17, the Department in their written replies submitted as under :-

**(a) National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR)**

CPWD has been assigned with the task of construction of the National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation. They have engaged EdCIL as a consultant for preparation of Detailed Project Report for establishment of NIMHR. Civil estimate of the project has already been completed by CPWD. The DPR of the project is expected DPR is likely to be finalized by May/June, 2016. Once DPR submitted, the Department could seek approval of competent authorities as per the procedure. It is expected that the CPWD could start work of establishment of NIMHR in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2016-17.

**(b) Establishment of Centre for Disability Sports**

The Department is in the process of establishment of an international Centre of excellence for disability sports (COEDS), enabling the right facilities to be provided in the right places, based on robust and up-to-date assessments of need for all levels of disabled sports and all sectors of the disabled community.

The Department have already taken over 10 acres of land each at Zeerakpur, Punjab and Vishakhapatnam. As a follow up action, the Department have shortlisted the consultants for preparation of site specific DPR. The last

date for submission of proposals is 07.4.2016. Thereafter, the Department will proceed further in the matter.

**(c) Establishment of College of Deaf**

Department is in the process of examining the proposal received from Dr. Shakuntala Misra National Rehabilitation university for establishment of college for Deaf. On receipt of complete information from the University/State Govts., recommendations in this regard, department will proceed further in the matter.

**(d) Free Coaching for Students with Disabilities**

The Scheme of Free Coaching for Students with Disabilities is to be approved and implemented in the financial year 2016-17 onwards.

So far as the new scholarship schemes being implemented through NSP are concerned, a Group of Officers(GOO) and a Group of Secretaries (GOS) have been set up by the Cabinet Secretariat to make recommendations on simplification of the schemes and their implementation process. The committee is expected to give its final recommendations in May, 2016.

**(e) GHARAUNDA Scheme**

The National Trust had launched GHARAUNDA scheme on 16-12-2008 for providing life long shelter and care to adult persons with disabilities cover under the National Trust Act. Under the scheme the National Trust was providing funds to Registered Organization in lieu of purchase of 5 seats @ Rs 8 lakh per seat, to be allotted to BPL persons with disabilities. The Registered Organization. In turn will admit APL beneficiaries on payment on the ratio of 1:5. The scheme could not become successful and in 6 years of period i.e. till 2014-15, only 12 projects could only be sanctioned out of which only 8 become functional, some of them partial.

The National Trust revamped the scheme along with all other schemes and programmes of the National Trust in 2015-16 and launched 10 new/ revised schemes on 24-11-2015. These schemes are – Disha (Early Intervention and School Readiness Scheme), Vikaas (Day Care), Samarth (Respite Care), Gharaunda (Group Home for Adult), Niramaya (Health Insurance Scheme), Sahyogi (Caregiver training scheme), Gyan Prabha (Educational support), Prerna (Marketing Assistance), Sambhav (Aids and Assisted Devices, Badhte Kadam (Awareness and Community Interaction)

In the revised Gharaunda scheme, provision of set up cost fund of Rs. 2.90 lakh, monthly recurring fund of Rs. 10,000 per beneficiaries and support of setting up Work Center ranging from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 1 lakh has been made. In addition, provision of crises fund has been made, which will be maintained with the National Trust, and in case of crises, it will be sanctioned to the Gharaunda center on recommendation of the State Govt. The ratio of BPL and APL beneficiaries has also been changed from 1:5 to 1:1.

10.3 A statement showing the details of NGOs, State, District and amount incurred under revised Gharaunda scheme was furnish to the Committee :-

**Revised Gharaunda Scheme**

(in lakhs)

<b>S. No</b>	<b>NGO name</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1	R.S.S. Janakalyan Samiti Maharashtra Prant	Maharashtra	Latur	290000
2	St Judes School For Mentally challenged A Unit of Ecomwel Orthopaedic Centre	Tamil Nadu	Salem	290000
3	Rampurhat Spastics & Handicapped Society	West Bengal	Birbhum	290000
4	Sri Dakshinya Bhava Samithi	Andhra Pradesh	Guntur	290000
5	District Red Cross Society, Biju Patnaik Special School for Mentally Challenged	Orissa	Nuapada	290000
6	Cheshire Homes India Delhi Unit	Delhi	South Delhi	290000

7	Aadhar Foundation	Madhya Pradesh	Chhindwara	290000
8	Modern Education Society	Haryana	Sonipat	290000
9	Swami Vivekanand Shiksha and Samaj Kalyan Samiti	Uttar Pradesh	Sant Kabeer Nagar	290000
10	Nilachal Seva Pratisthan	Orissa	Puri	290000
11	Swayamkrushi	Telangana	Rangareddy	290000
12	Centre For Rehabilitation Services & Research CRSR	Orissa	Bhadrak	290000
13	Society For Institute Of Psychological Research & Health	Uttar Pradesh	Amroha	290000
	<b>Total</b>			<b>37,70,000</b>

10.4 The Committee then desired to know the details of beneficiaries and expenditure incurred under the old Gharaunda scheme for the last two years, the Department furnished the following statements in this regard :-

S.NO	NAME OF THE AGENCY	STATE	APL Beneficiaries	BPL Beneficiaries	Total Beneficiaries
1	Karnataka Parent's Association for Mentally Retarded Citizens (KPAMRC)	Karnataka	32	5	37
2	Open Learning System (OLS)	Odisha	6		6
3	Partner Hooghly	West Bengal	4		4
4	PRAYAS	West Bengal	20		20
5	Govt. of Chattisgarh, Raipur	Chattisgarh	5		5
6	Savali	Pune	29	2	31
7	Dera Project (Muskaan)	Delhi	11	3	14
8	Adhar , Nashik	Thane	25	5	30

9	Swayamkrushi, Heyderabad,	Andhra Pradesh	<b>20</b>		<b>20</b>
Total			152	15	167

An amount of Rs. 32 lakh incurred in 2014-15 and Rs. 34.80 lakh in 2015-16 under this scheme.



**10.5 The Committee note that many new schemes/programmes have been launched by the Department for the welfare of PwDs besides National Trust including the revamped Gharaunda scheme providing life long shelter and care to adult persons with disability. The Committee also note that the expenditure under Gharaunda scheme was only Rs. 32 lakh in 2014-15 and Rs. 34.80 lakh in 2015-16. The total number of beneficiaries under Gharaunda scheme for the year 2014-15 and 2015-16 were 167. Out of them 152 beneficiaries belonged to Above Poverty Line (APL) and only 15 belonged to Below Poverty Line (BPL). The Committee are surprised to note that only 15 beneficiaries from BPL have been benefitted under Gharaunda scheme for the last two years. The Committee feel that the reason behind less BPL beneficiaries under the scheme was lack of awareness among PwDs about this scheme. The Committee, therefore, desire the Department that periodical massive campaign be organized to spread awareness among the disabled persons about the benefits of the scheme so that they could get shelter under the scheme. Further, the Committee observe that no scheme has been envisaged by the Department for those disabled persons who have no family support and protection, live and survive on streets by begging and face all sorts of hardships and exploitation. The Committee feel that this segment of disabled population is in dire need of support, protection and care. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommend the Department address the concerns and difficulties of these segment by formulating focussed schemes and programmes. The Committee also recommend that a comprehensive National Policy for PwDs on the lines of National Policy for Older Persons (NPOP) be**

**formulated to look into each and every aspect of welfare of disabled persons and for this purpose, if need be, views of NGOs and other stakeholders be also considered.**

## CHAPTER - XI

### SETTING UP OF SEPARATE DISABILITY DEPARTMENT IN STATES

11.1 The Committee were informed that setting up of separate Disability Department in each State is necessary to provide the benefits of the schemes running for the welfare of disabled persons.

11.2 As regards the names of the States having separate Disability Department and States who have neither any Disability Department nor any State Commissioner for Disability, the following statement was furnished to the Committee :-

#### States having separate Departments to deal with issues concerning persons with disabilities

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of the Department
1	Uttar Pradesh	Handicapped Welfare Department
2	Odisha	Department of Social Security and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
3	Tamil Nadu	Welfare of Differently Abled
4	Karnataka	Department for Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens

The status of appointment of State Commissioners for PwDs by various States/UTs is as under:-

S.No.	Name of the State	Name of the Department
1	A&N	Additional Charge
2	Andhra Pradesh	Additional Charge

3	Arunachal Pradesh	Additional Charge
4	Assam	Full time Commissioner
5	Bihar	Additional Charge
6	Chandigarh	Additional Charge
7	Chhattisgarh	Additional Charge
8	Daman & Diu	Additional Charge
9	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Additional Charge
10	Delhi	Full time Commissioner
11	Goa	Additional Charge
12	Gujarat	Full time Commissioner
13	Haryana	Full time Commissioner
14	H.P.	Additional Charge
15	J & K	Additional Charge
16	Jharkhand	Additional Charge
17	Karnataka	Full time Commissioner
18	Kerala	Full time Commissioner
19	Lakshadweep	Additional Charge
20	Maharashtra	Full time Commissioner
21	Manipur	Additional Charge
22	M.P.	Full time Commissioner
23	Meghalaya	Additional Charge
24	Mizoram	Full time Commissioner
25	Nagaland	Full time Commissioner
26	Odisha	Full time Commissioner
27	Puducherry	Additional Charge
28	Punjab	Additional Charge
29	Rajasthan	Additional Charge
30	Sikkim	Additional Charge
31	Tamilnadu	Full time Commissioner
32	Telangana	Additional Charge

33	Tripura	Additional Charge
34	U.P.	Additional Charge
35	Uttrakhand	Additional Charge
36	West Bengal	Full time Commissioner

11.3 Responding to a specific query of the Committee regarding setting up of Disability Department in States, the representative of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities submitted in evidence that when there was no separate Disability Department in the Central Government, disability was very low in the order and work was also suffering. Now, Centre has separate Disability Department and work is also being done effectively and speedily.

Further elaborating the issue, the Secretary Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities apprised the Committee that there is no separate Disability Ministry/Department in all States/UTs. Out of 36 States/UTs, only 19 States either have independent State Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities. In the remaining 17 States/UTs, either additional charge has been given to officers or the post lying vacant.

11.4 When the Committee desired to know about the steps being taken by the Department to sensitize these State Governments for need to create a special/separate Department for welfare of PwDs and the difficulties being faced by the State Governments in this regard, the Department is their written replies stated as under :-

"The State Governments have been advised in various meetings to consider creating separate Department for welfare of persons with disabilities. One of the reason for not creating separate Department as understood from the State is lack of adequate infrastructure as well as financial constraints faced by them".

11.5 The Committee observe that only 4 States namely, Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have separate Department to look after the welfare of PwDs. In rest of the States/UTs, the welfare of PwDs is either being looked after by the fulltime Commissioners or officers having an additional charge. The Committee while taking a very serious view of this situation would like to draw attention of the Department to the Article 41 of the Constitution of India which provides that, "The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, 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 underserved want." The Committee are surprised to note that in spite of this Constitutional provision, many of the State Governments/UTs are not having separate Department of Disability for proper implementation of schemes made for the welfare of PwDs which shows apathy on the part of the State Governments towards the welfare of PwDs and their empowerment who constitute more than 2.21% of total population. The Committee are of the considered opinion that no country or society can ever progress ignoring the needs and aspirations of more than 2.70 crore Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Department must impress upon the State Governments/UT Administrations to have separate Disability Department to address the concerns, issues, problems and difficulties of the PwDs so as to bring them into mainstream of Indian society which Constitution of India also mandates them.

**NEW DELHI;**

**27 April, 2016**

**07 Vaisakha, 1938 (Saka)**

**RAMESH BAIS**  
**Chairperson,**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Social Justice and**  
**Empowerment**

**MINUTES OF THE TENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (2015-16) HELD ON TUESDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2016**

The Committee met from 1445 hrs. to 1715 hrs. in Committee Room 'C', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS**

**LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor
3. Kunwar Bharatendra Singh
4. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
5. Shri Jhina Hikaka
6. Shri Bhagwant Khuba
7. Shri Sadashiv Lokhande
8. Shri Kariya Munda
9. Prof. Seetaram Ajmeera Naik
10. Shri Asaduddin Owaisi
11. Dr. Udit Raj
12. Smt. Satabdi Roy (Banerjee)
13. Smt. Mamta Thakur

**RAJYA SABHA**

14. Shri Ahamed Hassan
15. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
16. Smt. Mohsina Kidwai
17. Smt. Vijila Sathyananth
18. Smt. Wansuk Syiem

## SECRETARIAT

1. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
2. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director

## REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT/ORGANIZATION

Sl. No.	Name	Designation and Organization
1.	Dr. Vinod Aggarwal	Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
2.	Ms. N. Sumati	Chief Controller of Accounts, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
3.	Shri Awanish Kumar Awasthi	Joint Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
4.	Shri Mukesh Jain	Joint Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
5.	Smt. T.C.A. Kalyani	Joint Secretary and Financial Adviser, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities
6.	Shri C.K. Khaitan	Joint Secretary and CEO, National Trust
7.	Shri S.K. Srivastava	Member Secretary, Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)
8.	Shri PC Das	CMD, National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC)
9.	Shri D.R. Sarin	CMD, Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO)



2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members and the representatives of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) to the sitting of the Committee convened to have discussion on Demands for Grants (2016-17) pertaining to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities). Impressing upon the witnesses to keep the proceedings of the Committee 'Confidential', the Chairperson asked the Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) to give an overview of the Budgetary provisions for 2016-17 for various programmes/schemes of the Department.

3. The Secretary accordingly briefed about the performance of the Department, detailing the budgetary allocations, actual expenditure incurred/physical targets achieved under various schemes/programmes etc. through power point presentation. The broad issues discussed at the meeting are as follows:-

- (i) Under utilization of funds allocated in the Annual Plan 2015-16 under each scheme/programme.
- (ii) Strategy chalked out by the Ministry to avoid underutilization of funds in 2016-17.
- (iii) Present status on the recommendations of Baswan Committee set up to look into working of seven National Institute so as to make them Institute of National Importance.
- (iv) Scheme for upliftment and empowerment of homeless and destitute disabled persons.
- (v) Distribution of Motorized tricycle to disabled persons under ADIP scheme.
- (vi) Decreasing Grants-in-aid released under ADIP scheme to NGOs for the last three years.
- (vii) Implementation of DDRs, specifically in North East Region.

- (viii) Need for establishment of Disability Department/State Commissioner for disability in each State/UT.
- (ix) Non-filling up of vacancies of non-official Members representing Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in the Board of Directors of the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC).
- (x) Scheme on Accessible India Campaign for achieving universal accessibility for PwDs.
- (xi) National Fellowship scheme for PwDs.
- (xii) Setting up of three Composite Regional Centres under the National Institutes for Rehabilitation Training and Research.

4. The representatives of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) also responded to the queries by the Members to the extent possible. The Chairperson directed the Secretary to furnish written replies to the unanswered queries raised by Members to the Secretariat latest by 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2016 for early finalization of Report on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities). The Secretary assured to comply.

5. The Chairperson then thanked the Secretary and other officials of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities) for giving valuable information to the Committee on the subject and expressing their views in a free and frank manner on various issues raised by the Members.

6. A copy of the verbatim proceeding of the sitting was kept on record.

*The witnesses then withdrew.*

*The Committee then adjourned.*

**MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH SITTING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> APRIL, 2016**

The Committee met from 1500 hrs. to 1530 hrs. in Chairperson's Chamber, Room No. 116, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

**SHRI RAMESH BAIS - CHAIRPERSON**

**MEMBERS**

**LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Jasvantsinh Sumanbhai Bhabhor
3. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
4. Sadhvi Savitri Bai Phule
5. Dr. Udit Raj
6. Smt. Neelam Sonkar
7. Shri Tej Pratap Singh Yadav

**RAJYA SABHA**

8. Shri Ahamed Hassan
9. Smt. Sarojini Hembram
10. Smt. Wansuk Syiem

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Ashok Kumar Singh - Additional Secretary
2. Shri Ashok Sajwan - Director
3. Smt. Mamta Kemwal - Additional Director

2. At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee.

3. The Committee then took up for consideration the following draft Reports of the Committee :-

- (i) \*\*\*\*\*
- (ii) Twenty-eighth Report on Demands for Grants (2016-17) of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities).
- (iii) \*\*\*\*\*
- (iv) \*\*\*\*\*

4. The Chairperson then requested the Members to give their suggestions on the draft Reports. The Reports were adopted by the Committee without any amendments. The Committee then authorized the Chairperson to finalize these draft Reports in the light of consequential changes that might arise out of factual verification of the draft Reports and to present the same to both the Houses.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

\* Matter not related to the Report.