

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:558
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2015
BENEFITS TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED
Chandrappa Shri B.N.

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

- (a) the number of differently abled persons in the country, State/UT-wise and the details of schemes/programmes being implemented for the welfare of differently abled persons;
- (b) the total number of differently abled persons benefitted under various centrally sponsored schemes/programmes during each of the last three years, scheme and State-wise; and
- (c) whether the Government is aware that the benefits meant for them are not reaching them, if so, the details thereof, the reasons therefor and the corrective action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI THAAWARCHAND GEHLOT)

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

Statement referred in reply to part (a) to (c) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 558 for answer on 05.05.2015 regarding Benefits to Differently Abled.

(a) State/UT-wise details of number of differently abled persons in the country as per census 2011 is at annexure-I.

The primary responsibility for programmes for the welfare of persons with disabilities, including persons with physical and mental disabilities, lies with the State Government as per entry No.9 in the "State List". However, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities supplements the efforts of the States in the welfare of Persons with Disabilities.

Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), financial assistance is provided to Non-governmental organizations for providing various services to persons with disabilities like special schools for mentally retarded children, vocational training centres, project for cerebral palsied children, pre-school and early intervention & training, half-way homes for psycho-rehabilitation of treated and controlled mentally ill persons etc.

Under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/ Appliances (ADIP), assistance is provided to Implementing Agencies for providing aids and appliances to persons with disabilities.

National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) is providing financial assistance in the form of concessional loans to the PwDs for self-employment and higher education.

In addition, there are educational scholarship schemes like Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship scheme for Students with Disabilities (RGNF), Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities; Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship and Post - Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities, scholarship schemes under National Fund and Trust Fund.

National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (National Trust) has been implementing schemes for providing support to the Persons with Disabilities suffering from autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities to enable them to lead independent life.

(b) All the schemes/ programmes being implemented by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities for the welfare of differently abled persons are Central Sector Schemes.

(c) Complaints of misuse of funds are investigated through enquiry/ investigation and further release of fund is considered only on receipt of satisfactory inspection report.

The National Institutes under the Ministry and their Regional Centres and Composite Regional Centres have been allocated States/UTs for inspection, monitoring and guidance to the Grantee Organisations under the schemes. The Bureau Heads and Divisional Heads have been designated as Nodal Officers for various, States/UTs for monitoring the implementation of various schemes of the Department.