

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4492  
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2015  
BRAILLE SCRIPT FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED  
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**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) Whether the Government proposes to make available more books and literature in Braille script for the use of the visually impaired children;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government plan to introduce and distribute more IT enabled learning material for the use of such students; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) The Government has approved the Central Sector Scheme of "support for establishment/modernization/capacity augmentation of Braille presses" for the benefit of visually challenged during the 12th Plan Period (effective from 2014-15). The objectives of the scheme are:

- (i) to establish 18 new Braille Presses
- (ii) to establish 03 small scale Braille printing units in UTs;
- (iii) to modernize 12 old Braille Presses
- (iv) to augment Braille printing capacity of 03 modern Braille printing presses

The Government has approved three proposals for establishment of new Braille press, three proposals for capacity augmentation of the existing press and eleven proposals for modernization of old Braille presses.

(c) & (d) Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities has introduced a revised version of the Scheme "Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP)'. Under this Scheme the following IT devices are given at free of cost or at subsidized rate to visually impaired children:

- i) Smart phone with screen reading software
- ii) Tablet with Screen Reading Software
- iii) Tablet media player
- iv) Daisy book
- v) Smart cane
- vi) Mouse cam video magnifier
- vii) Smart phone with magnified apparatus
- viii) Hand held magnifier
- ix) Pocket size blue tooth key board for smart phone or tablet
- x) Spectacle magnifier
- xi) Audio labeler

- xii) Pill Dispenser
- xiii) Talking calculator
- xiv) Talking table clock
- xv) Talking wrist watch
- xvi) Optical magnifiers
- xvii) Talking glucometer