

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3663  
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014  
FACILITIES TO DIFFERENTLY ABLED  
Dubey Shri Satish Chandra;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to make the persons with disabilities self-reliant;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to grant purchase preference to the firms owned by such persons and also to direct Government departments and Ministries to purchase stationery and other general items from the firms owned by differently abled persons in order to rehabilitate them and help them to become self-reliant; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) to (b): Section 33 of the PwD Act, 1995 provides for reservation of not less than 3% of vacancies in government establishments for persons with disabilities. Accordingly, reservations are made in various Government Establishments, including Public Sector Undertakings.

For providing employment to persons with disabilities in the private sector, Government makes payment of employer's contribution to the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for the first three years upto a salary of Rs. 25000 per month.

Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), the Central Government provides grant-in-aid to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional levels. The programmes funded under the scheme include programmes for pre-school and early intervention, special education, vocational training and placement, community based rehabilitation, manpower development, psycho-social rehabilitation of persons with mental illness, rehabilitation of leprosy-cured persons, etc.

Under Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fittings of aids and appliances (ADIP) Scheme, grants are released to various implementing agencies for purchase, fabrication and distribution of standard aids and appliances, to assist needy disabled persons including mentally retarded persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential. Such aids and appliances are generally provided either free or with 50% subsidy as the case may be.

National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) provides financial assistance in the form of concessional loans to the Persons with Disabilities for self employment and higher education.

In addition, there are educational scholarship schemes like Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship scheme for Students with Disabilities (RGNF) and other scholarship schemes under National Fund and Trust Fund.

(c) &(d): No, Sir. No such policy is envisaged.