

The Delhi Division of Ministry of Urban Development had notified the amended Building Bye-Laws to ensure that the public buildings, which were erected in Delhi provided barrier free environment to Persons with Disabilities. The guidelines of these Building Bye-laws were circulated to all the States and Union Territories for incorporation in their municipal building Bye-laws. 22 States have amended their Bye-laws.

As per the available information, ramps and other accessible feature have been provided in a number of Universities, Railway Stations, Airports, Hospitals, and other public buildings for convenience of the aged and the persons with disabilities. Accessible features are provided in a phase manner as per the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities Act.

Definition of senior citizen

4565. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a vast difference between the definition of senior citizen in different departments these namely being 58 years, 60 years, and 62 years;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefore; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government for similarity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (c) As per the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, a "Senior Citizen" means any person being a citizen of India, who has attained the age of sixty years or above.

However, for the purpose of providing benefits under various schemes for older persons, the age limit for deciding eligibility varies.

Scholarship for persons with disabilities

4566. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total expenditure of the Government on schemes for the differently-abled persons and details thereof;
- (b) the total number of scholarships offered under the National Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities for the past three years;
- (c) the number of disability-wise scholarship uptake for the National Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities for the past three years;
- (d) whether Government plans to increase the number of scholarship offered in the coming year and details thereof; and
- (e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) An amount of Rs. 197.36 crores have been incurred on various

schemes for the differently-abled persons in 2009-10, Scheme-wise break-up is given below.—

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Amount (in crore)
1.	Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)	61.56
2.	Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP)	67.35
3.	National Institutes	43.60
4.	National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation	9.00
5.	Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full participation) Act, 1995	10.84
6.	Scheme of Incentives to Employers in the Private Sector for providing employment to persons with disabilities	1.00
7.	Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992	3.00
8.	Spinal Injury Centre	1.00
TOTAL :		197.36

(b) and (c) The total number of scholarships and the numbers offered disability-wise under National Scholarship for Persons with Disabilities for the last three years is given in below:—

Sl. No.	Type of disability	Total number of scholarship sanctioned during last three years
1.	Visual Handicapped	410
2.	Hearing Handicapped	232
3.	Orthopedic Handicapped	438
4.	Cerebral palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities, Profound or severe hearing impairment	187
TOTAL :		1267

(d) and (e) There is no such proposal at present. National Scholarship scheme provides for 500 scholarships to be given every year.