

Special schools in Gujarat under DDRS

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*340. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount allocated to the State of Gujarat under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) during each of the last three years;
- (b) the number of special schools being run in the State with the help of the Scheme;
- (c) the number of differently abled children benefited by the Scheme during the last three years, district-wise, particularly in Ahmedabad, Surat, Rajkot, Vadodara, Mehsana and Amreli; and
- (d) whether more funds are likely to be allocated for the State under the Scheme, and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MUKUL WASNIK): (a) Under the Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), funds are only notionally allocated to the State Governments. Grant-in-aid is released directly to eligible Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for running projects for the welfare of persons with disabilities. Notional allocation for the State of Gujarat for 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11 was Rs.175 lakhs, Rs.230 lakhs and Rs. 380 lakhs, respectively.

(b) Seven Special Schools run by various NGOs are being supported under the Scheme.

(c) District-wise number of differently abled children benefited in the Special Schools under the Scheme during the last three years is as follows:

| District | No. of beneficiaries (as per project sanctioned) |
|-----------|---|
| Ahmedabad | 96 |
| Surat | 375 |
| Vadodara | 174 |
| Valsad | 67 |
| Total | 712 |

(d) Notional allocation for Gujarat under DDRS for the current year, 2011-12 is slightly less (at Rs.360 lakhs) compared to 2010-11, due to inadequate utilization of its notional allocation in the previous years. During the year 2010-11, as against the notional allocation of Rs.380 lakhs, only Rs.50.88 lakhs could be utilized.