GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3342
TO BE ANSWERED ON: 24.03.2021

Upliftment of PwDs in Tamil Nadu

3342. Shri P. Wilson:

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

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in Tamil Nadu and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the amount provided by Government for the welfare of PwDs in Tamil Nadu;

(c) whether Government has provided any funds/equipments to uplift PwDs in Tamil Nadu;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government is taking any steps to increase job avenues to these PwDs in Tamil Nadu or other States?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)

(a) to (d) Relief to the persons with disabilities is a State subject by virtue of entry '9' of the State list of the Constitution of India. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments for the welfare of persons with disabilities.

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) implements various schemes/projects including through its National Institutes, National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation & Mental Disabilities, National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) and Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India as well as through State Governments/ autonomous bodies/ organizations/institutes and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for the welfare and rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) throughout the country including in Tamil Nadu and other States.

Details of the major schemes of this Department along with the funds released and number of beneficiaries benefited in Tamil Nadu State are at Annexure.

(e) The Central Government has enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 which came into force on 19.04.2017. The Act provides various rights and entitlements for persons with disabilities and mandates the appropriate Government to take measures to promote education, skill development, social security, health, rehabilitation and recreation for persons with disabilities so that they can enjoy their rights equally with others. The Act provides for reservation in seats in Government/ Government aided higher educational institutions and reservation in Government jobs as well as in allotment of land for housing, setting up of business etc. for persons with benchmark disabilities.

Further, in order to implement the provision of reservation in Government employment envisaged under the RPwD Act, 2016, the Ministry notified the list of 3566 posts suitable for various categories of persons with benchmark disabilities on 04.01.2021.

In addition, the Department implements a National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) under which skilling of PwDs is conducted through a network of empanelled training partners comprising Government organizations and non-Governmental organizations.

The Ministry also implements incentive scheme for providing employment to persons with disabilities in private sector.

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ANNEXURE

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) to (d) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3342 to be answered on 24.03.2021 regarding '**Upliftment of PwDs in Tamil Nadu**' raised by Shri P. Wilson.

Details of the major schemes of the Department implemented throughout the country including Tamil Nadu State :

1. **Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS):**

Under the scheme, financial assistance in the form of Grant-in-Aid is provided to the Programme Implementing Agencies (PIAs) for their projects relating to rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) to enable them to reach and maintain their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric and socio functional levels.

2. **Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances Scheme (ADIP):**

Under the Scheme, funds are released to various Implementing Agencies to assist the eligible Divyangjan in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

3. **National Action Plan for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs):**

The Department launched the National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in March, 2015 which is implemented across the country. Under NAP skilling of persons with disabilities is conducted through a network of empanelled training partners comprising Government organizations (NIs/NHFDC/CRCs/Other Government Organizations) and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

4. Scholarships for Students with Disabilities:

Under the Scheme, scholarship is provided to students with disabilities. This umbrella Scheme has six components namely; Pre-matric (Classes IX & X), Post-matric (Classes XI to Post Graduate Degree/Diploma), Top Class Education (Graduate and Post Graduate Degree/Diploma in notified Institute of Excellence in Education), National Fellowship (M. Phil/Ph. D in Indian Universities), National Overseas Scholarship (Master Degree and Ph. D in Foreign Universities) and Free Coaching (for competitive exams for group A and B posts and entrance examinations for admission to technical and professional courses).

5. National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (Divyangjan Swavalamban Yojana):

Under the scheme financial assistance in terms of loan is provided to persons with disabilities for starting any activity contributing directly or indirectly in the income generation or helping PwDs in their overall progress of empowerment and higher education through implementing agencies throughout the country.

6. Accessible India Campaign (AIC):

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 mandates accessibility under Sections 40 to 46 of the Act. With a view to creating barrier free environment for independent and safe living of PwDs, Government launched the Accessible India Campaign (AIC) on 3rd December, 2015. AIC is being implemented under 3 pillars of built up environment, transportation system and Information & Communication Technology (ICT).

Funds released and the number of beneficiaries benefited in Tamil Nadu State:

S. No.	Scheme Name	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21 (As on 28.02.2021)	
		Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Number of Beneficiaries	Amount (Rs. in lakh)	Number of Beneficiaries
1	**Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme**	216.42	1087	272.19	1368	191.9	786	182.52	686
2	**Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids/Appliances Scheme (ADIP)**	589.83	11377	708.02	16319	879.25	14557	408.86	10545
3	**National Action Plan for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities**	406.91	3430	17.83	140	30.24	385	48.4	0
4	**Scholarships for Students with Disabilities**	208.61	1260	359.32	1506	442.09	1181	473.63	1991
5	**National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (Divyangjan Swavalamban Yojana)**	3000	6000	2005.56	4002	2501.26	5001	3000	6000
6	**Accessible India Campaign**	307.50	6 buildings	0	0	0	0	1428.19	14 buildings

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