

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1890
ANSWERED ON – 07/08/2024

SURVEY ON HELPLESS SINGLE WOMEN

1890. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU

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

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey or undertaken any investigation during the last five years to find out the number of single women, helpless, Divyang and blind people and citizens suffering from incurable diseases in the country;
- (b) if so, the category-wise and State-wise details thereof including Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether Government proposes to improve the lives of the above said people by formulating/implementing a new scheme for them; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and by when, the said scheme is likely to be formulated/implemented?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B.L.VERMA)

(a) & (b) The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted a Survey of Persons with Disabilities in India during July – December 2018. From the results of this survey, estimated percentage of persons with different broad type of disability for each State/ UT are given in Annexure-1.

The National Family Health Survey (NFHS) collects data on population, health and nutrition for India, its States and all districts. As per NFHS-5 (2019-21) State/UT wise information on prevalence of any disability, visual disability and diseases are at Annexure-2, Annexure-3 and Annexure-4 respectively.

(c) & (d) The major schemes for women include Deendayal Antyodaya Yojna - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), approximately 90 lakhs women self-help groups having nearly 10 crore members are changing the rural landscape for employment/ self-employment. Similarly, National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) is for urban areas.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY), Stand-up India, Start-up India, Pradhan Mantri Street Vendors AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), for providing employment/ self-employment and credit facilities. Majority of the beneficiaries under these schemes are women.

Skill and vocational training to the women under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojna (PMKVY).

The Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) to provide digital literacy to rural populations. These two schemes have also helped women and girls gaining necessary skills required for jobs and entrepreneurship.

The Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) implements various schemes that address the need for credit, technology, market development, capacity building etc. of the MSMEs.

Women entrepreneurs are encouraged to avail the benefits of these schemes through various fora. A few of the schemes having greater focus on women are Samarth Initiative, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme, Public Procurement Policy, Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises, ZED Certification, Mahila Coir Yojana (MCY) etc

As regards persons with disabilities, the Central Government had enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 for empowerment of persons with disabilities. In pursuance of the said Act, there are various provisions available for welfare and improvement of lives of the persons with disabilities.

Under these provisions, various schemes such as Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP Scheme), Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme, Scholarship for Education, Skill Development etc. are implemented. Section 34 of the Act provides for 4% reservation in the government employment to the persons with benchmark (40% or above) disabilities. Further, Section 32 of the Act provides 5% reservation in government or government aided higher educational institutions for persons with benchmark disabilities

Annexure-1

Table (1): Percentage of persons with broad type of disability for each State/ UT from NSS 76th Round Survey of Persons with Disabilities

State/ UT	percentage of persons with							
	locomotor disability	visual disability	hearing	speech and language disability	mental retardation /intellectual disability	mental illness	other type of disability	any disability
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Andhra Pradesh	1.9	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	3.0
Arunachal Pradesh	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.8
Assam	0.9	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.8
Bihar	1.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.7
Chhattisgarh	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.2
Delhi	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.3
Goa	0.7	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.3
Gujarat	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.5
Haryana	1.8	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	2.7
Himachal Pradesh	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	2.2
Jammu & Kashmir	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.5
Jharkhand	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.2
Karnataka	1.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	2.4
Kerala	1.9	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	3.2
Madhya Pradesh	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	2.1
Maharashtra	1.5	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.2
Manipur	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.8
Meghalaya	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.0
Mizoram	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.0	1.1
Nagaland	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.0
Odisha	1.8	0.4	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	3.2
Punjab	2.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	2.7
Rajasthan	1.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.2
Sikkim	0.5	0.5	0.8	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.2
Tamil Nadu	1.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	1.9
Telangana	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.0
Tripura	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.2
Uttarakhand	0.8	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	1.6
Uttar Pradesh	1.6	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	2.4
West Bengal	1.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	2.1
A & N Islands	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.5
Chandigarh	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.1
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.1
Daman & Diu	0.6	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.0
Lakshadweep	1.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	2.0
Puducherry	1.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	2.6
all-India	1.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	2.2

Source: NSS Report No. 583: Persons with Disabilities in India

Explanatory Note:

1. Person with Disability: "Person with disability" means a person with long term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment which, in interaction with barriers, hinders his full and effective participation in society equally with others.

"Barrier" means any factor including communicational, cultural, economic, environmental, institutional, political, social, attitudinal or structural factors which hampers the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in society.

2. Locomotor disability: Locomotor disability implies a person's inability to execute distinctive activities associated with movement of self and objects.

3. Visual disability: The persons with any of the following conditions were considered as persons with visual disability.

- i. Cannot see at all;
- ii. Has no perception of light even with the help of spectacles;
- iii. Has perception of light but has blurred vision even after using spectacles, contact lenses etc. Such persons can however, move independently with the help of remaining sight;
- iv. Can see light but cannot see properly to move about independently;
- v. Has blurred vision but had no occasion to test if her/his eyesight would improve after taking corrective measures.

In case of (iii), (iv) and (v) above, to decide on whether the person has visual disability, it was confirmed whether the person can count the fingers of hand from a distance of 10 feet in good daylight.

It may be noted that one-eyed person not with any of the specific conditions mentioned above was not considered as a person with visual disability.

4. Speech and Language disability: This refers to persons' inability to speak properly. A person with any one of the following conditions was considered as a person with speech and language disability:

- i. Cannot speak at all or she/he is unable to speak normally on account of certain difficulties linked to speech disorder. Speech of a person is judged to be disordered if the person's speech is not understood by the listener;
- ii. Able to speak in single words only and is not able to speak in sentences;
- iii. It also includes those whose speech is not understood due to defects in speech, such as stammering, nasal voice, hoarse voice and discordant voice and articulation defects, etc.;
- iv. Permanent disability arising out of conditions such as laryngectomy or aphasia was also considered as speech and language disability;
- v. Aphasia is an inability to comprehend and formulate language because of damage to specific brain regions;
- vi. Laryngectomy is the removal of the larynx and separation of the airway from the mouth, nose and esophagus. If a person has laryngectomy or a report of diagnosis with respect to aphasia, he was considered as having speech and language disability. Diagnosis means a medical diagnosis by a medical practitioner.

5. Hearing disability: A person with any one of the following conditions was considered as a person with hearing disability

- i. Cannot hear at all;
- ii. The persons' inability to hear properly;
- iii. Has difficulty in hearing day-to-day conversational speech (hard of hearing).

If the person is using a hearing aid, the person was considered as having hearing disability. However, hearing problem in only one ear is not considered as having hearing disability.

6. Mental retardation/Intellectual disability: This is a condition characterised by significant limitation both in intellectual functioning (reasoning, learning, problem solving) and in adaptive behaviour which covers a range of every day, social and practical skills.

7. Mental illness: "Mental illness" means a substantial disorder of thinking, mood, perception, orientation or memory that grossly impairs judgment, behaviour, capacity to recognise reality or ability to meet the ordinary demands of life, but does not include retardation which is a condition of arrested or incomplete development of mind of a person, specially characterised by subnormality of intelligence.

Table 1: Prevalence of any disability by State/UTs, NFHS-5 (2019-21)

State/union territory	Urban				Rural				Total			
	Female	Male	Transgender	Total	Female	Male	Transgender	Total	Female	Male	Transgender	Total
India	0.8	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.5	0.2	1.2	0.9	1.4	0.1	1.1
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0.5	1.3	nc	0.9	0.8	1.1	nc	1.0	0.7	1.2	nc	1.0
Andhra Pradesh	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.1	0.9	1.1	0.0	1.0
Arunachal Pradesh	0.3	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.0	0.6
Assam	0.6	0.8	0.0	0.7	0.7	1.0	4.7	0.9	0.7	1.0	3.3	0.9
Bihar	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.8	1.5	0.0	1.1	0.8	1.4	0.0	1.1
Chandigarh	0.7	0.9	nc	0.8	3.1	2.6	nc	2.9	0.7	0.9	nc	0.8
Chhattisgarh	0.5	1.3	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0.9	0.8	nc	0.8	0.4	0.9	nc	0.7	0.6	0.8	nc	0.7
Delhi	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.4	nc	1.1	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7
Goa	0.2	1.0	nc	0.6	0.9	1.0	nc	1.0	0.5	1.0	nc	0.7
Gujarat	0.7	0.9	0.0	0.8	0.9	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.0	0.9
Haryana	0.5	0.9	0.0	0.7	0.8	1.2	0.0	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.0	0.9
Himachal Pradesh	0.3	0.2	nc	0.2	0.7	0.9	nc	0.8	0.6	0.8	nc	0.7
Jammu & Kashmir	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.0	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.0	0.9
Jharkhand	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.0	0.7
Karnataka	0.7	1.2	0.0	1.0	1.3	2.0	0.0	1.7	1.1	1.7	0.0	1.4
Kerala	0.7	1.6	0.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	nc	1.4	1.0	1.6	0.0	1.3
Ladakh	1.7	1.3	0.0	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.0	1.1	1.3	1.1	0.0	1.2
Lakshadweep	1.6	1.4	nc	1.5	3.3	3.1	nc	3.2	2.0	1.8	nc	1.9
Madhya Pradesh	0.8	1.5	0.0	1.2	1.1	1.9	0.0	1.5	1.0	1.8	0.0	1.4
Maharashtra	1.0	1.3	0.0	1.1	1.1	2.0	0.0	1.5	1.0	1.7	0.0	1.4
Manipur	1.0	1.7	nc	1.4	0.8	1.5	nc	1.1	0.9	1.6	0.0	1.2
Meghalaya	0.9	1.0	nc	1.0	0.7	1.0	nc	0.8	0.8	1.0	nc	0.9
Mizoram	0.5	0.9	nc	0.7	1.1	1.5	nc	1.3	0.8	1.2	nc	1.0
Nagaland	0.3	0.6	nc	0.5	1.0	1.4	nc	1.2	0.8	1.1	nc	0.9
Odisha	0.7	1.3	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	0.0	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.0	1.1
Puducherry	1.2	1.1	nc	1.2	1.1	1.2	nc	1.1	1.1	1.2	nc	1.2
Punjab	1.1	1.4	0.0	1.2	1.1	1.9	0.0	1.5	1.1	1.7	0.0	1.4
Rajasthan	0.6	1.0	0.0	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.9
Sikkim	0.5	0.5	nc	0.5	1.4	2.0	nc	1.7	1.1	1.4	nc	1.2
Tamil Nadu	1.1	1.6	0.0	1.3	1.3	1.9	0.0	1.6	1.2	1.8	0.0	1.5
Telangana	1.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.2	1.6	0.0	1.4	1.1	1.4	0.0	1.2
Tripura	0.7	1.2	nc	1.0	1.0	1.4	nc	1.2	0.9	1.4	nc	1.1
Uttar Pradesh	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.8	0.6	1.2	0.0	0.9	0.6	1.1	0.0	0.9
Uttarakhand	0.5	1.2	0.0	0.9	0.8	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.7	1.4	0.0	1.0
West Bengal	0.6	0.9	0.0	0.8	1.0	1.8	0.0	1.4	0.9	1.5	0.0	1.2

Source: NFHS-5 (2019-21) National report; (For more information: <http://rchiips.org/NFHS/index.shtml>) nc = No cases

Table 2: Percentage distribution of household population having Visual disability, NFHS-5 (2019-21)

State/UTs	Female			Male			Total		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
India	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Andhra Pradesh	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Arunachal Pradesh	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Assam	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Bihar	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Chhattisgarh	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Delhi	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Goa	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1
Gujarat	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Haryana	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Himachal Pradesh	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Jammu & Kashmir	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Jharkhand	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Karnataka	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Kerala	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Madhya Pradesh	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
Maharashtra	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Manipur	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Meghalaya	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Mizoram	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Nagaland	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1
Odisha	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Punjab	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Rajasthan	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sikkim	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
Tamil Nadu	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
Telangana	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1
Tripura	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Uttar Pradesh	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Uttarakhand	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1
West Bengal	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2

Source: NFHS-5 (2019-21) National & State reports; (For more information: <http://rchiips.org/NFHS/index.shtml>)

Table 3: Prevalence of Hypertension, blood glucose, obesity among adults and overweight among children under 5 years by State/UTs, NFHS-5 (2019-21)

State/union territory	Prevalence of hypertension ¹ among women age 15 and over	Prevalence of hypertension ¹ among men age 15 and over	Percentage of women age 15 and over with >140 mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage of men age 15 and over with >140mg/dl blood glucose levels or taking medicine to lower their blood glucose level	Percentage of women age 15-49 years who are obese(BMI $\geq$ 30.0 kg/m ²)	Percentage of men age 15-49 years who are obese (BMI $\geq$ 30.0 kg/m ²)	Children under 5 years who are overweight (weight-for-height) ² (%)
India	21.3	24	13.5	15.6	6.4	4	3.4
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	25.3	30.2	17.5	17.9	12.6	10.8	5.4
Andhra Pradesh	25.3	29.0	19.5	21.8	12.0	6.3	2.7
Arunachal Pradesh	24.9	33.1	8.4	11.9	3.8	3.6	9.6
Assam	19.1	20.3	12.8	16.0	2.5	1.9	4.8
Bihar	15.9	18.4	12.7	16.2	3.3	1.7	2.4
Chandigarh	25.0	30.6	19.0	16.6	16.3	8.6	1.8
Chhattisgarh	23.6	27.7	9.0	10.8	3.3	2.3	4.0
Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	14.9	15.4	13.6	16.4	7.0	3.1	1.9
Delhi	24.1	32.7	12.2	14.1	14.2	6.9	4.0
Goa	27.5	26.8	20.8	24.1	9.5	2.8	2.8
Gujarat	20.5	20.3	15.8	16.9	6.9	4.4	3.9
Haryana	21.0	25.1	11.9	13.5	9.9	5.9	3.3
Himachal Pradesh	22.2	24.4	13.9	14.7	7.5	4.5	5.7
Jammu & Kashmir	20.0	18.9	8.7	8.0	4.8	3.0	9.6
Jharkhand	17.8	22.6	10.2	14.1	2.5	1.4	2.8
Karnataka	25.0	26.9	14.0	15.6	8.5	5.8	3.2
Kerala	30.9	32.8	24.8	27.0	9.8	6.7	4.0
Ladakh	15.7	17.4	6.7	8.3	3.2	2.9	13.4
Lakshadweep	24.8	24.7	19.5	20.7	6.9	5.0	10.5
Madhya Pradesh	20.6	22.7	9.8	12.2	3.7	2.6	2.0
Maharashtra	23.1	24.4	12.4	13.6	6.3	4.7	4.1

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Manipur	23.0	33.2	13.6	16.5	7.4	3.9	3.3
Meghalaya	18.7	21.4	9.5	13.9	1.4	1.6	4.0
Mizoram	17.7	25.2	13.8	15.4	4.6	5.6	10.0
Nagaland	22.3	28.7	9.3	12.4	1.8	2.6	4.9
Odisha	22.4	25.6	14.0	17.0	5.2	4.1	3.5
Puducherry	23.0	30.1	20.1	21.7	18.2	9.2	3.8
Punjab	31.2	37.7	14.7	14.1	14.2	8.3	4.1
Rajasthan	15.3	17.9	7.2	8.9	2.7	1.2	3.3
Sikkim	34.5	41.6	12.2	15.7	6.9	5.8	9.6
Tamil Nadu	24.8	30.2	20.7	22.1	14.1	8.7	4.3
Telangana	26.1	31.4	14.7	18.1	8.9	7.5	3.4
Tripura	20.8	22.7	17.7	19.3	3.9	3.0	8.2
Uttar Pradesh	18.3	21.7	10.0	11.6	5.2	2.9	3.1
Uttarakhand	22.9	31.8	10.8	14.2	7.4	5.0	4.1
West Bengal	20.5	20.1	17.5	21.3	4.6	1.9	4.3

Source: NFHS-5 (2019-21) National report; (For more information: <http://rchiips.org/NFHS/index.shtml>)

¹ A woman/man is classified as having hypertension if s/he has SBP ≥ 140 mmHg or DBP ≥ 90 mmHg at the time of the survey, or s/he is currently taking medicine to lower her/his blood pressure.

² Above +2 standard deviations, based on the WHO standard.