

10 Years Achievements of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities since 2014-15

➤ RPWD Act

- Government enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 on 28.12.2016. The Act came into force from 19.04.2017. Central Rules were notified on 15.06.2017.
- In the RPwD Act, 2016 **categories of disabilities increased from 7 to 21.**
- **Reservation** in Government jobs for Persons with Disabilities increased **from 3% to 4%**. On 04.04.2021, the Ministry notified a list of 3566 posts (1046-Group A, 515 – Group B, 1724- Group C and 281- Group D) identified suitable for reservation for PwDs.
- Reservation in seats for students with disabilities in Govt./Govt. aided **higher educational institutions** increased **from 3% to 5%**.
- On 17.05.2022, the Central Government issued instructions providing for 4% reservation in promotion for persons with benchmark disabilities in the cadre strength within Group C, from Group C to Group B, within Group B to the lowest rung of Group A.

➤ Scheme of Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids /Appliances (ADIP Scheme)

- (i) Under ADIP Scheme, grants-in-aid of **Rs.2031.36** crore were utilized during the last 10 years benefitting 28.65 **lakh** beneficiaries approximately through 15904 camps.
- (ii) Out of **15904 camps**, 1212 Mega Camps/Special Camps were organized covering **36** States/UTs for distribution of aids and assistive devices under the ADIP Scheme at a cost of about **Rs.965.84 crore** benefitting 10.19 lakh Divyangjan approximately.
- (iii) Out of these Mega Camps one camp at Gwalior, was graced by Hon'ble President and five camps were graced by Hon'ble Prime Minister at Varanasi, Navsari, Vadodara, Rajkot and Prayagraj.
- (iv) Ten Guinness World Records have been created in these camps.
- (v) 6764 (5960 under ADIP Scheme and 804 under CSR) cochlear implant surgeries have been successfully conducted in the country.
- (vi) 64713 motorized tricycles have been distributed to eligible Divyangjan.
- (vii) 72 camps were organised on 17.09.2022 wherein aids & assistive devices worth Rs.28.95 crore were provided to 29,750 Divyangjan.
- (viii) 65 camps were organised on 14.01.2023 wherein aids & assistive devices distributed to more than 50,000 Divyangjan.
- (ix) 17 camps were organised on 25.03.2023 wherein aids & assistive devices distributed to more than 13500 Divyangjan.
- (x) 72 camps were organized on 24.09.2023 where aids & assistive devices distributed to more than 35,000 Divyangjan.

- (xi) 20 camps were organized on 25.11.2023 where aids & assistive devices distributed to more than 54,000 Divyangjan.
- (xii) 25 camps were organized on 26.02.2024 where aids & assistive devices distributed to more than 12,000 Divyangjan.

➤ **Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)** Office of CCPD is functional since September 1998

The main functions of the Chief Commissioner are defined under Section 75 of RPwD Act 2016 which are follows:

- Inquire, Suo motu or otherwise, deprivation of rights of persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) and safeguard available to them in respect of matters for which the Central Government is the appropriate Government and take up the matter with appropriate authorities for corrective action; Monitoring of Implementation of the provisions of RPwD Act, 2016 etc.
- From the year 2014-15, about 41,054 cases have been registered in the office of CCPD and around 40094 (including backlog) had been disposed of by the end of March, 2024

➤ **Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI)** is mandated to:

- Regulate and monitor the training programmes in the field of rehabilitation of PwDs.
- Maintain Central Rehabilitation Register of persons possessing the recognized qualification.
- Promoting research in rehabilitation and special education
- It has recognized about 57 programmes which includes Master, Bachelor, Diploma and Certificate level programmes.
- Number of Rehabilitation Professional/ Personnel registered:
- Total number of Registered Professional/ Personnel: --2,34,139

These inter-alia includes:

❖ Special Teachers :	1,80,917
❖ Audiologists and Speech Therapists :	15,503
❖ Clinical Psychologists :	3,842
❖ Rehabilitation Psychologists :	2,864
❖ Prosthetics and orthotists :	3,402
❖ Speech and Hearing Technicians :	4,738

➤ **Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Kanpur**

- ALIMCO was incorporated on 30.11.1972 Under Section 8 (not for profit motive) of the Companies Act, 2013.
- Modernization of ALIMCO done with a cost of Rs 338.04 crore with financial support of Rs 200.00 crore from Central Government.

- Post modernization, ALIMCO's production capacity increased by 2.5 times.
- For production of modern assistive devices ALIMCO entered into Technology Transfer Agreement (TTA) with M/s Motivation, U.K. for manufacturing two models of WHO approved Wheelchairs.

➤ **National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation (NHFD) Incorporated** on 24th January, 1997 as Company not for profit under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (Section 8 of Companies act 2013) which is wholly owned by Govt. of India.

NHFD offers loan assistance at concessional rate of interest on convenient terms to all eligible PwDs meeting the eligibility criteria. Details of loan assistance, interest rate and repayment period under various schemes are as under:

S.NO.	Scheme	Max. loan	Interest rate payable by Beneficiary
1.	Divyangjan SwablambanYojana	Rs. 50.00 lakhs per PwD	5-9% p.a.#
2.	Vishesh Microfinance Yojana	Rs. 60,000/- per PwD	12.5% p.a.

For Education Loan : Rate of interest will be 4% p.a.

***A rebate of 1% in interest rate is allowed to women with disabilities/persons with disabilities other than OH in self-employment loans (not for Education Loan) upto Rs.50,000/- under Divyangjan Swablamban Yojana. The rebate is borne by NHFD.**

➤ **National Institutes** There are 9 National Institutes (NIs):

- Providing comprehensive rehabilitation services and Cross Disability Early identification and intervention
- Conducting courses for various categories of rehabilitation professionals/personnel
- Undertaking research in respective areas of disabilities and equipping persons with disabilities with aids & assistive devices for their mobility and empowerment.
- During the period 2014-15 to 2023-24, 1.79 crore persons with disabilities were served by these NIs and Rs. 2206.22 crore was released as Grant-in-Aid.

25 Composite Rehabilitation Centres (CRCs) set up across the country as extended arms of the NIs providing for:

- Rehabilitation services to all categories of PwDs and train rehabilitation professionals, workers and functionaries
- Programmes of education and skill development for PwDs and create awareness among parents and the community regarding the needs and rights of PwDs.
- During the period of 2014-15 to 2023-24, 449.40 crore was released as Grant-in-Aid to CRCs and 58.65 Lakh beneficiaries were served.

New National Institute

Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), New Delhi:

- Established on September, 2015 with main objective to develop manpower for using teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language
- Offers 02 year duration Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) approved course, namely Diploma in Teaching Indian Sign Language (DTISL) and Diploma in Sign Language Interpreting (DISLI).
- Online ISL module of 40 hours in self-learning mode for parents and family members, special educators, teachers, etc is freely available on our website, youtube and i-GOT Platform.
- Offers free Video relay service (VRS) to provide interpreter accessibility to Deaf Divyangjan.
- Developed and continuously updating ISL Dictionary for domains such as academic, financial and banking, STEM, etc. As on date there are over 10000 words which are available on multiple platforms such as youtube, ISLRTC and DEPwD Websites, Diksha Portal and also available in mobile app as Sign Learn.
- Total 183 hearing students have been trained as ISL interpreters and 79 deaf students have been trained as ISL teachers.
- Trained over 1000 DMRC front line workers (customer care) on need based basic ISL training.
- MoU signed with NIOS and NCERT to develop educational content into Indian Sign Language.
- Providing free skill training and SSC coaching to deaf students in accessible format.
- Regularly updating the directory of Interpreter and deaf schools on ISLRTC website. As on date there are around 304 Interpreters and 172 deaf schools.

National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR), Sehore:

- The Union Cabinet approved setting up of the National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR), with an estimated cost of Rs. 179.54 crore including Rs. 105.68 crore for construction.
- Institute was made operational in September, 2019 from temporary accommodation provided by the Govt of Madhya Pradesh at Sehore. Service Block of NIMHR building has been inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E) on 13.03.2024.
- Now, NIMHR has started functioning from its permanent campus situated at Sherpur, Sehore, Madhya Pradesh.

Atal Bihari Vajpayee Training Centre for Disability Sports, Gwalior (ABV-TCDS)

The Cabinet in its meeting held on 28.02.2019 approved the establishment of one Centre for Disability Sports at Gwalior (M.P.). The Centre is registered as a society under the M.P

Societies Registration Act, 1973 dated 22.09.2021 with authorities being the Governing Body & Executive committees supervising the activities of the Centre.

Aims & Objectives:

- To establish a state-of-the-art international level Centre of Excellence for sports for Divyang sports persons (PwDs) with full accessibility as per norms.
- To create specialized sports infrastructure so that the para-sports persons can undergo rigorous and specialized training in the Centre.
- To ensure the participation of Divyangjan in sports activities in greater numbers and enable them to effectively compete in international events.
- To help build confidence and develop a sense of belonging in Divyangjan to facilitate their integration into Society.

Facilities in ABV-TCDS

ABV-TCDS offers sports training for persons with disabilities, enabling them to compete in Paralympics, Deaflympics, Special Olympics, and other international events. Facilities include outdoor and indoor activities, a hostel, and a range of sports facilities

- **Scholarship Schemes for ‘Students with Disabilities’:** An Umbrella Scholarship Scheme with 6 components such as pre-matric, post-matric, top class education, National fellowship, National Overseas and free coaching for students with disabilities was launched from 2014-15. Scholarships amounting to Rs 834.74 crore released to 2.57 lakh students with disabilities in DBT mode.
- **Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids/ Appliances (ADIP):** The Department is implementing a scheme entitled ‘Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP)’, under which funds are released to various implementing agencies for distributing aids & assistive devices to Divyangjan, resulting in their social, economic and educational empowerment.
 - Registration of beneficiaries is also being done through ARJUN PORTAL (<https://adip.depwd.gov.in/>). Beneficiaries are now may register themselves directly by login on the MIS portal for requisite aids and appliance
 - Under the Scheme, 28.79 Lakh Divyangjan have been provided aids and assistive devices at a cost of Rs. 2055.42 crore has been released during the last ten years.
 - 65786 Motorized tricycles were distributed
 - 6764 cochlear implant surgeries (5960 under ADIP and 804 under CSR) successfully completed.
 - 10 World Record have been created.
- **Deendayal Divyanjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS):** Scheme revised w.e.f. 01.04.2022 wherein model projects of DDRS component have been conceptualized to cover all 21 disabilities as per the RPwD Act, 2016 and the number of model projects have been reduced from 9 to 8 whereas in the DDRC component, the provision of the maximum admissible manpower has been enhanced from 12 to 15.

- The DDRS Scheme provides grant-in-aid to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities (PwDs).
- During the last ten years: Grant-in-Aid for Rs. 805.66 cr. has been released to 4730 projects under DDRS benefitting 3,49,240 beneficiaries.
- The proposals are processed through the E-Anudaan portal of the Department.
- DDRC is a sub component under the DDRS scheme for providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) at district level which includes early detection and intervention, counseling and medical rehabilitation and assistance in procuring appropriate aids and appliances for reducing the effect of disabilities.
- Total 74 DDRCs has been funded with central support during the year 2023-24. Efforts are on for establishment of DDRC in each of the Districts of the Country.

➤ **SCHEMES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RIGHT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES ACT 2016 (SIPDA)** is an umbrella “Central Sector Scheme” comprising of the following major components:

(A) Creation of Barrier Free Environment for PwDs (since 1998-99): To provide financial assistance for Barrier-free Environment in existing Government buildings across the country, Institutions/ Organizations/Universities run by Central and State Government, Public Buildings, State Govt. Secretariat, Office of the State Commissioner for Disability etc.

- From 2014-15 to 2024-25 (as on **31.05.2024**), Rs. 167.45 Crores has been released for retrofitting 10019 buildings of State/UT Govt. including Autonomous organization/NIs and Statutory bodies

(B) Accessible India Campaign(AIC) The Hon’ble Prime Minister launched the AIC on 3rd Dec. 2015 covering 3 verticals (sectors) viz.

Physical Environment (Infrastructure)

State Govt Buildings

Phase 1 –

- 1671 buildings audited by empanelled auditors
- Grant-in-aid of Rs. 563.85 crore for retrofitting of 1314 buildings. 623 buildings completed reported by 20 States

Phase 2 & 3 –

- 8 State/UT govts have reported 2851 buildings have been selected for retrofitting

Central Govt Buildings

- **1100 buildings** out of 1100 out of 1100 selected buildings maintained by CPWD, made accessible

Transportation – Rail, Air and Roads (Buses)

Railway Stations

- All 709 A1, A & B stations made accessible (ramps, lift, reserved parking etc.)

Airports

- All 35 international and 55 of 69 domestic airports made accessible (lift - audio signage & braille, ramps and toilets)

Buses

- 42,248 (29.05%) STU buses made partially accessible and **8,695 (5.96%) buses** made fully accessible.

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Ecosystem

- **State Govt Websites**

676 websites made accessible and 476 accessible websites have been made live

- **Central Govt Websites**

95 accessible websites have been made live

- **Sign Language Interpreters**

More than 1000 Sign Language Interpreters trained by ISLRTC through long term, short term and professional courses.

- **Accessible TV Viewing**

2447 accessible news bulletin telecast by 19 news channels and 3686 accessible scheduled programs/movies telecast by 17 General Entertainment channels.

(C) National Action Plan for Skill Development of PwDs: It was launched in **March, 2015** and key objectives of the Scheme were to enhance skills of PwDs to enable them to become self-reliant and productive member of the society. The training are imparted through Empanelled Training Partners(ETPs) comprising Govt. Organizations(GOs) and Non-Govt. Organizations (NGOs).

Since its inception, an amount of Rs. 204.68 Cr. has been released for skill training of 1.94 Lakhs PwDs upto 2023-24.

(D) Unique Disability Identity (UDID): The Government of India launched the Unique Disability ID (UDID) Project in 2016-17 with an objective to create a national data base for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and to issue UDID cards for all disabilities.

The revised guidelines for Assessment of Disabilities dated 12 March, 2024 have been notified in the Gazette of India on 14 March, 2024. New version of UDID Portal has been rolled out on 6th May, 2024.

As on date, above 1.10 crore UDID Cards have been generated and issued through the Swavlamban Portal across the country.

(E) AWARENESS GENERATION PROGRAM (AGP) The Department is implementing "Awareness Generation & Publicity Scheme" as one of the component under SIPDA Scheme across the country. The main objective of the scheme is creation of general awareness about the schemes and programmes of the Government for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and to train and sensitize key functionaries of the Central/State Government/Local Bodies and other service providers on a regular basis on disability related matters through State/District/Block level workshops with the aim to raise awareness among employees and peer groups about capabilities of PwDs.

Divya Kala Shakti 12 Divya Kala Shakti have so far been organized under AGP.

Divya Kala Mela 12 Divya Kala Mela so far been organized under AGP.