

**SCHEME FOR PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER
NATIONAL FUND FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)**

Introduction:

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPwD Act, 2016) was enacted by the Parliament to give effect to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) and to ensure the protection of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. The Act provides a comprehensive legal framework for promoting equality, non-discrimination, accessibility, rehabilitation, education, skill development, employment, social security and full participation of persons with disabilities in all spheres of life.

Section 86 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 mandates the Central Government to constitute a 'National Fund' for Persons with Disabilities. In pursuance of the said provision, the Government of India constituted the National Fund for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) vide Office Order dated 10.01.2018.

Subsequently, the National Fund was constituted as a 'Trust' under the provisions of the Indian Trusts Act, 1882, with effect from 18 April 2018, for the purpose of administration, management and utilization of the Fund in accordance with the provisions of the RPwD Act, 2016 and the Rules framed thereunder.

The National Fund represents the consolidation of the assets and liabilities of the following two earlier funds:

- a. The National Fund for People with Disabilities, constituted in August, 1983;
- b. The Trust Fund for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, constituted in November, 2006.

The Central Government notified the **Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017** on 15.06.2017. **Chapter X** of the said Rules lays down the statutory framework governing the management, administration, operation and utilization of the National Fund, including the constitution and functioning of its Governing Body.

The provisions contained in Chapter X empower the Governing Body of the National Fund to administer the Fund, consider proposals for financial assistance, determine the priorities for utilization of the Fund, **subject to the provisions of the RPwD Act, 2016** and the Rules made thereunder.

Keeping in view the changing needs of persons with disabilities, technological advancements, evolving rehabilitation practices and the experience gained during implementation of the Scheme, the Governing Body has periodically reviewed the operational guidelines governing financial assistance under the National Fund.

Guidelines for Financial Assistance:

Accordingly, the Guidelines for financial assistance from National Fund were last revised by the Governing Body in its meeting held on 08.04.2025 and reviewed in July, 2026.

Based on the deliberations among the member of the Governing Body, the scope of financial assistance under the National Fund has now been revised and expanded. With the approval of the Governing Body, the following activities are eligible for consideration for financial assistance, under two broad categories, **Individuals with Benchmark Disabilities** as well as **eligible Organizations**, subject to the provisions of the RPwD Act, 2016, the Rules made thereunder and these Guidelines.

1. Components admissible for Individuals with Benchmark Disabilities:

- i. Persons with benchmark disabilities who have excelled in sports or in fine arts/ music/ dance etc. at the State level to participate in the National/ International events conducted by the organizations of repute. Assistance for the similar activity to be granted only once each for National event and International event in a financial year;
- ii. Support for certain exclusive needs of persons with high support needs as recommended by the Assessment Boards as notified by DEPwD vide Govt of India gazette notification No: GSR 209E dated 8th march 2019;
- iii. Financial Assistance to Individuals with Benchmark Disabilities for Presenting Research Papers at International level.
- iv. Any other case as considered deserving/ appropriate by the Governing Body u/s 42(5)(d) of RPwD Rules, 2017.

2. Components admissible for Organizations:

- i. Disability Innovation, Research, Technology & Entrepreneurship;
- ii. Inclusive Livelihoods & Purple Economy;
- iii. Disabilities Empowerment & Inclusion Initiatives.
- iv. Capacity Building and Strengthening of Disability Sector Organizations Initiative
- v. Purple Fest/and other festivals support to States/UTs
- vi. Any other case as considered deserving/ appropriate by the Governing Body u/s 42(5)(d) of RPwD Rules, 2017.

Objective:

The objective of these Guidelines is to provide a transparent, need-based and enabling framework for extending financial assistance from the **National Fund** for Persons with Disabilities (**Divyangjan**) to **Individuals with Benchmark Disabilities** and **eligible Organizations** for activities that promote the empowerment, inclusion and overall development of **Divyangjan**.

The Guidelines supplement the existing schemes and programmes of the Government by supporting innovative, priority interventions and initiatives, which are not adequately covered under the regular budgetary provisions of the Government. These Guidelines are intended to ensure that the resources of the National Fund are utilized in a transparent, equitable and accountable manner to address the emerging needs of persons with disabilities and to encourage innovative models, initiatives towards purple economy and best practices that advance the objectives of the RPwD Act, 2016 and facilitate the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities (Divyangjan).

Detailed criteria of eligibility & components covered under the Scheme:

(A) For Individuals with Benchmark Disability -

(a) Eligibility criteria-

- (i) Persons with Benchmark Disabilities.
- (ii) The applicant must not have obtained financial assistance from any other source in respect of the components against which application is submitted to National Fund. A certificate will be submitted to this effect along with the application.
- (iii) The applicant must have complied with the terms & conditions of financial assistance while availed of from National Fund on previous occasions.

(b) How to apply-

The eligible applicants may submit the proposal online. The applicant to submit the bills, tickets, boarding pass, receipt of visa fee, proof of participation and registration fee receipt of the event etc. within 15 days of the conclusion of the event.

(c) Details of components covered under the Scheme:-

- i)** Persons with benchmark disabilities who have excelled in sports or in fine arts/ music/ dance etc. at the State level to participate in the National/ International events conducted by the organizations of repute. Assistance for the similar activity to be granted only once each for National event and International event in a financial year

Extent of Financial Assistance-

Event	Travel Class/ Exp.	Food & Stay Exp. Per diem
National Level	AC- II Class/ CC	₹1500 + 3000
International Level	Economy Class	Lump Sum Daily Allowance ranging from ₹ 5000- Rs. 10,000

In case, the applicant is **not capable of travelling alone, Escort** may be given Travel and Food Expenses on the same rates as mentioned above.

ii) Support for certain exclusive needs of persons with high support needs as recommended by the Assessment Boards as notified by DEPwD vide Govt of India gazette notification No: GSR 209E dated 8th march 2019.

Purpose- Customized mobility equipment/Assistive device to improve activity of daily living.

Extent of Financial Assistance- Actual Cost of customized mobility equipment/Assistive device or **₹ 10 Lakh**, whichever is less. The assistive device / equipment available with the ALIMCO (a CPSE under the DEPwD), shall not be allowed to be procured from any other source.

Income Criteria- The annual family income of the applicant shall not exceed **₹ 12 lakh**.

iii) Financial Assistance to Individuals with Benchmark Disabilities for Presenting Research Papers at International level.

Purpose- To provide financial assistance to an individual person with benchmark disability who has excelled in academic and technical areas for presenting research papers in international academic conferences/ seminars/ symposia/ workshops.

Extent of Financial Assistance-

Event	Travel Class/ Exp.	Food & Stay Exp. Per diem
International Level	Economy Class	Lump Sum Daily Allowance ranging from ₹ 5000- Rs. 10,000

In case, the applicant is **not capable of travelling alone**, **Escort** may be given Travel and Food Expenses on the same rates as mentioned above.

(B) For Organizations -

- (a) Eligibility criteria (all conditions are mandatory)-
- Organization must be registered under Societies Act/Companies Act/Trust Act (except Govt. organizations);
 - Organization must be registered under RPwD Act, 2016 (except Govt. organizations)
 - The applicant organization must not have obtained financial assistance for the same purpose from any other source. A certificate will be submitted to this effect along with the application.
 - Organization once received assistance under National Fund for a project will be eligible again to apply for the separate project on alternate Year.
 - Organization must be registered under NGO DARPAN Portal (except Govt. organizations).

(b) How to apply-

The eligible organizations may submit the proposal online. The organizations to submit the bills, Utilization Certificate and detailed report etc. within 15 days of the conclusion of the event/project.

(c) Details of components covered under the Scheme-

(i) Disability Innovation, Research, & Technology.

Purpose- To support the development, testing, validation, innovative technologies, assistive products & Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based solutions for inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Extent of Financial Assistance- May be decided by the Governing Body on case to case basis.

(ii) Inclusive Livelihoods, Entrepreneurship & Purple Economy.

Purpose- To promote sustainable livelihoods, entrepreneurship and economic empowerment of persons with disabilities by fostering the **Purple Economy** through inclusive enterprises, innovation, market linkages, **Unified Benefits Interface (UBI)** and sustainable employment opportunities, facilitating **UDID enrolment**, access to Government schemes and scholarships, and **demand-need matchmaking** for education, skilling, employment, entrepreneurship and rehabilitation services.

Extent of Financial Assistance- May be decided by the Governing Body on case to case basis.

(iii) Disabilities Empowerment & inclusion Initiatives.

Purpose- To promote social inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities through capacity-building, UDID enrolment, rehabilitation, accessible education, entrepreneurship, livelihood opportunities, social protection, and other targeted interventions.

Extent of Financial Assistance- May be decided by the Governing Body on case to case basis.

(iv) Capacity Building & Strengthening of Government Institutions and their work force on the rights of persons with Disabilities.

Purpose:- To enhance the knowledge, skills, and capacities of institutions, stakeholders, service providers, senior Government officials, educators, grassroots-level functionaries, ASHA workers, and Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANMs) through structured capacity-building initiatives

for effective implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

- (v) Purple Fest/and other festivals support to States/UTs

Purpose:- To provide financial assistance to States/UTs for organizing National/ International level events to promote inclusivity with regard to persons with disabilities on the lines of **Purple Fest**.

Extent of Financial Assistance: -

For National level	50% of the total expenditure subject to a limit of Rs. 3 crores.
For International level	50% of the total expenditure subject to a limit of Rs. 5 crores.

Format for submission of the proposal to the National Fund
(Only for the Individual Applicants)

Name of the applicant			
Father's Name			
Address			
Mobile Number			
Email			
Type of Disability			
% of Disability			
Purpose	i. Support for participating in sports or in fine arts/ music/ dance events. ii. Support for Presenting Research Papers at International level. iv. Any Other purpose.		
Schedule of the event (as applicable)			
Duration of the event (as applicable)			
Level of the event			
Organizing agency			
Details of the prior achievements (as applicable)	State Level		
	National Level		
	International Level		
Source of Funding received earlier for any purpose (if any) during last three years	Name of the Funder	Financial Year	Amount Received
Whether financial assistance has been sought from any other source for the current proposal in respect of any item such a travel			

, accommodation, food etc. If yes, details thereof.				
Item wise bifurcation of Fund sought				
Item		Amount required		
Total				

Expected outcome from the proposal (minimum in 1000 words)

--

Declaration

I hereby declared that the information and documents provided above is true to the best of knowledge and nothing has been concealed therefrom.	Yes
I certify that no financial assistance from any other sources has been sought for the same purpose.	Yes

Documents required

- i. Disability Certificate/UDID Card
- ii. Copy of PAN Card
- iii. Documents in respect of prior Achievements.
- iv. Invitation from the event organizing agency/Acceptance of Abstract
- v. Bank Account details
- vi. Documents in respect of prior funding received (if any).

Format for submission of the proposal to the National Fund
(Only for the Individual Applicants)

Name of the applicant	
Father's Name	
Address	
Mobile Number	
Email	
Type of Disability	
% of Disability	
Annual Family Income	
Whether applicant poses the Certificate of High Support Need (As applicable)	
Purpose	Support for certain exclusive needs of persons with high support needs
Type of the equipment /assistive device required	
Any specific requirement for customize equipment /device	
Detailed of the prior funding for the same purpose (if any)	
Whether financial assistance has been sought from any other source for the current proposal in respect of any item such a travel , accommodation, food etc. If yes, details thereof.	
Item wise bifurcation of Fund sought	
Item	Amount required
Total	

Expected outcome from the proposal (in minimum 1000 words)

--

Declaration

I hereby declared that the information and documents provided above is true to the best of knowledge and nothing has been concealed therefrom.	Yes
I certify that no financial assistance from any other sources has been sought for the same purpose.	Yes

Documents required

- i. Disability Certificate/UDID Card
- ii. Recommendation of the Assessment Board.
- iii. Copy of PAN Card
- iv. Bank Account details
- v. Documents in respect of prior funding.
- vi. Income certificate issued by the Competent Authority

Format for submission of the proposal to the National Fund
(Only for Organizations)

Section 1: Basic Details of the organization

S. No.	Particulars required	Information of the applicant
1.	Registered Name (in full)	
2.	Name of the Head of Organization	
3.	Position (Designation)	
4.	Registered Address of Head Office:	
5.	Correspondence Address:	
6.	Official Website Address / E-mail Address Contact No.	
7.	Registration Details* (Legal Structure)	
8.	Registration No.	
9.	RPwD Act Registration No.*	
10.	Whether Registered at DARPAN Portal, if so ID details*	
11.	PAN No.	
12.	Name of the PAN Card	
13.	Person for current project (Name)	
14.	Contact details	
15.	Any other relevant information, applicant wants to share	

*** submit copies of relevant documents**

Section 2: Details of Operations of the Implementing Agency

S. No.	Information required	Description by the Organization
1.	Genesis (Briefly narrate how the Organization came into existence- what was the intent of the founders and what was the trigger for them to set up this Organization)	
2.	Purpose (what problems does the Organization solve and for whom)	
3.	Details of Products/ Services/ Solutions provided by the Organization to its beneficiaries	
4.	Previous achievements of the Organization (with special mention in the field of disability)	
5.	Operation area of the Organization (Region specific or Pan India), please give details	

Section 3: Resources/ Source of Funds available with the Organization

S. No.	Information required	Description by the Organization
1.	Key Management	
2.	Activity Partners	
3.	CSR Contributors	
4.	Collaborations	
5.	Memberships/ Affiliations	
6.	Grants	
7.	Donations	
8.	Others	

Section 4: Key Donors (Please mention names, grant amount per year – in case of multi-year grants, split the amount across years) -

(Rs. in Thousands)

Name of the donor	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Individual/ Small Donors					
Total Donations					

Section 5: Major activities in Disability Sector in last 5 years

S. No.	Information required	Description by the Organization				
		21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25	25-26
1.	Number of beneficiaries covered					
2.	Number of Districts covered					
3.	Quantum of work accomplished (Quantifiable/ measurable)*					
4.	Whether Targets achieved, if so the details*					
5.	Total volume of funds utilized					
6.	Organization's funds in such activities (in % of total utilized)					
7.	On the date of application, total liquidity available with the Organization which can be used for the purpose					

* submit a write up with all the details in not less than 1000 words.

Section 6: Project Details

S. No.	Information required	Description by the Organization
1.	Theme of the Project	
2.	Objectives	
3.	Rationale for the Project	
4.	How the project is expected to address the problem statement. (Please avoid reiteration about activities, previous projects and furnish clear cut project plan)*	
5.	Duration of the Project	
6.	Location/ Operations of Project	
7.	Targeted beneficiaries	
8.	Methodology (all steps of project- planning, implementation, post implementation & evaluation)*	
9.	Proposed Monitoring Mechanism*	
10.	Details of indicators/ parameters for assessment for monitoring*	
11.	Total Outlay of the Project	
12.	Funds needed from National Fund	
13.	Expected Outcome(In detailed)	
14.	Expected (Quantifiable) Output (In detailed)	

15.	Cost per beneficiary	
16.	Reasons for confidence in the Project.*	
17.	Details of the previous similar projects undertaking (Title, Location, Duration, Beneficiaries, Source of funds, Outcome, Output and Cost per beneficiary)	
18.	Details of projects sanctioned from National Fund*	

* submit a write up with all the details in not less than 1000 words for each item.