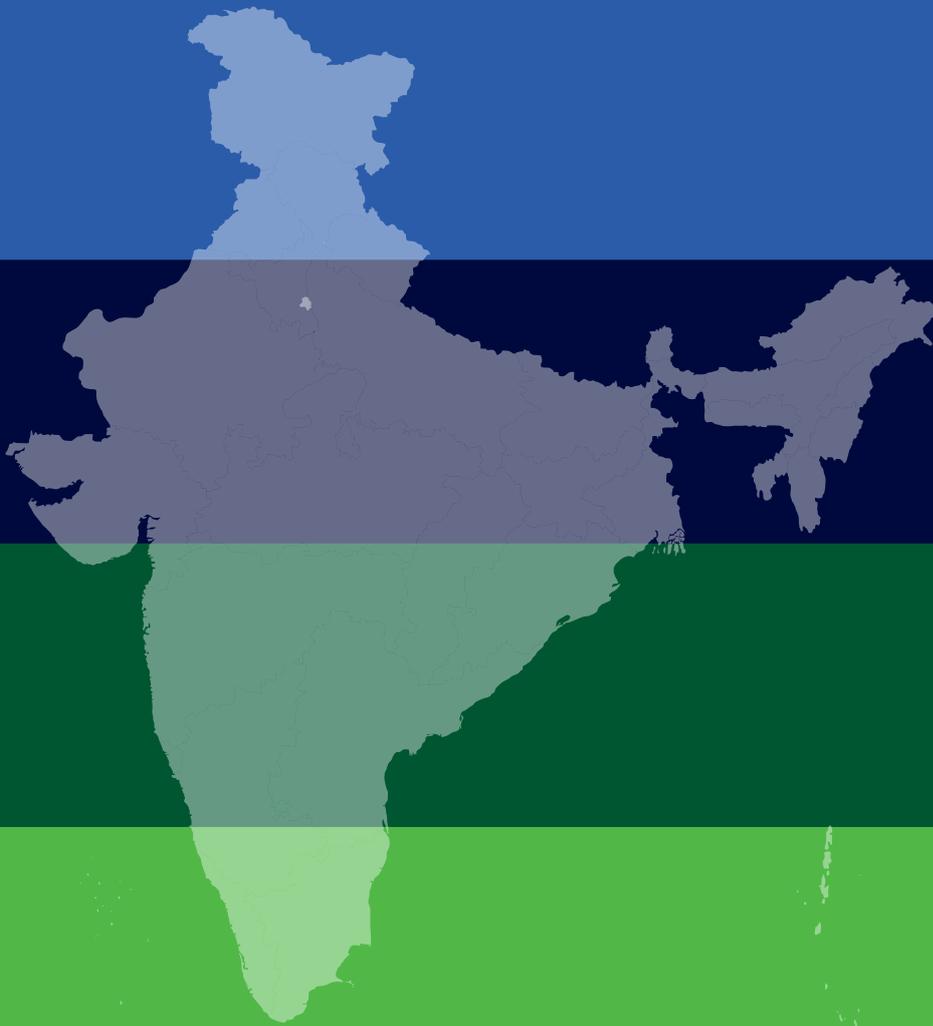




Sightsavers

Policies and Schemes of Central and State Governments for People with Disabilities



This book is dedicated to the inspiration of



Sir John Wilson

**Founder of Sightsavers
(Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind)**

Sir John Foster Wilson CBE was a public health advocate, best known for working to prevent blindness in developing countries in Africa and South and South East Asia. Blind himself, after an accident at school in Scarborough, United Kingdom, Sir John founded several organisations such as the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind (now known as Sightsavers), Disability Awareness in Action and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness. At his instigation, the World Health Organization established the first International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, for which he served as president from 1974 until his retirement in 1982.

Policies and Schemes of Central and State Governments for People with Disabilities

Compiled by Sightsavers

**With support from
Blind People's Association (Ahmedabad), India**

Disclaimer:

This document contains a set of policies and schemes of the central and state governments in India which are bound to change with time. Sightsavers along with Blind People's Association has taken considerable effort to compile the information and present it in a reader friendly format. Although we have taken great care to ensure the reliability of the information contained herein, some discrepancies may exist. Sightsavers will consider periodical updates to the contents of this document as is feasible.

**“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.”**

Helen Keller

Information is key to sound planning and management. This document is an outcome of a study commissioned by Sightsavers India and has been developed to provide information on the various policies and schemes of the central and state governments in India. It is intended as a useful resource for policy makers, managers and practitioners engaged in the disability sector and most importantly, by persons with disabilities.

We are grateful to Blind People's Association for the extensive research it undertook to compile all the information available and give it a structure.

A big thank you to Sightsavers India partners and staff for their efforts in coordinating the research and in developing this document.

We are extremely grateful to officials of the central and state governments for providing us with the information, without their cooperation and encouragement this compilation would not have been possible.

Thanks to Indus D'Sign for their creative in the designing and layout of the document.

Sightsavers India

2011

प्रसन्न कुमार पिन्चा

मुख्य आयुक्त
(निःशक्त जन)

Prasanna Kumar Pincha
Chief Commissioner
For Persons with Disabilities



सामाजिक न्याय और
अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

Ministry of Social Justice
and Empowerment
Government of India

Dated: 4th May, 2012

MESSAGE

The India Regional Office of the Sightsavers has, over the last several years, undertaken a number of laudable initiatives in respect of rights issues of persons with visual and other disabilities. This gradual shift in the thinking of the organisation to rights based approach is a welcome move.

The India Regional Office of the Sightsavers has, of late, come up with a publication containing disability related legislative framework, the policies and various benefits available to persons with disabilities in the country. The said publication is slated to be released on 18th May, 2012. I appreciate this initiative and am sure that this publication will come in handy for the primary stakeholders, i.e., persons with disabilities, professionals working in the field of disability and social and human rights activists.

I would like to express the hope that this useful publication will be revised and updated from time to time as it appears that the schemes, etc. mentioned in this publication are illustrative and not exhaustive. I am sure it will be made more comprehensive by including as many schemes of the Central Government and the State Governments as possible.

I wish the India Regional Office of the Sightsavers the very best in their endeavour to work towards promoting and protecting rights of persons with disabilities.

(P.K. Pincha)

A missing link:

This compilation of the policies and schemes under the Union and state governments in India targeting persons with disabilities is a most timely contribution. Disability as a social concern is slowly but surely coming to acquire increasing public attention at the highest levels of government and policy-making in recent years, aided in no small measure by the efforts of grassroots groups and non-government organisations. The four separate pieces of legislation specifically addressing this segment of the population codify provisions to combat discrimination and promote equal opportunities. Efforts since 2001 to canvass disabilities as part of India's decennial population census, correcting a post-independence era anomaly, and the steps to enable disabled people to participate in the electoral process are major milestones. The Union Government has also recently decided to establish a separate department for disabilities in the Ministry of Social Justice.

Yet legislation is only the beginning, albeit an important one, in the long journey to translating ideals and objectives into reality. Raising awareness on the rights, entitlements and duties embodied in the law is the other critical task to ensure accountability among public authorities and bring about real and lasting transformation in the lives of the disabled.

The need for such an exercise can hardly be overstated in a country where disabled people, historically the most deprived, continue to be most neglected. Experience of the past decade in India, evolving case law in particular, shows that a lack of awareness, in combination with traditional stereotypes, continue to pose major hurdles on the path of effective enforcement of key provisions of the law. Dissemination of information would contribute also to greater and more efficient utilization of budgetary allocations on disability.

This report is also significant from the standpoint of the realization of broader socio-economic objectives. It is estimated that close to 10 per cent of India's overall population is afflicted with one or another disability. To the extent that disability is both a cause and consequence of poverty, bringing disabled people into the mainstream is critical to the governments' efforts to achieve large reductions in poverty – a key United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goal (MDG). Raising the rates of literacy is the other MDG target. In this regard, enrollment of the vast majority of disabled children in educational institutions is itself contingent upon the availability of suitably trained teachers and the provision of physical access to school premises.

This document, a joint effort of Sightsavers India and Blind People's Association, Ahmedabad seeks to bridge a critical knowledge and information gap in several important areas. It covers policies and schemes of direct relevance to disabled individuals, both under the Union Government as well as 32 states across India. The report catalogues information broadly on the provision of reservations in education and employment, extension of financial support for assistive aids and appliances, concessions and discounts on rail and road transport, incentives for self-employment and more. The findings will inevitably prompt comparisons in terms of how different states fare in relevant respects and what should be done to improve matters. We have reason to hope that this compilation will generate a lively debate among stakeholders and promote greater advocacy.

Dr. Garimella Subramaniam
Senior Assistant Editor, The Hindu
and Advisor, Sightsavers India

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Chapter 1

Introduction

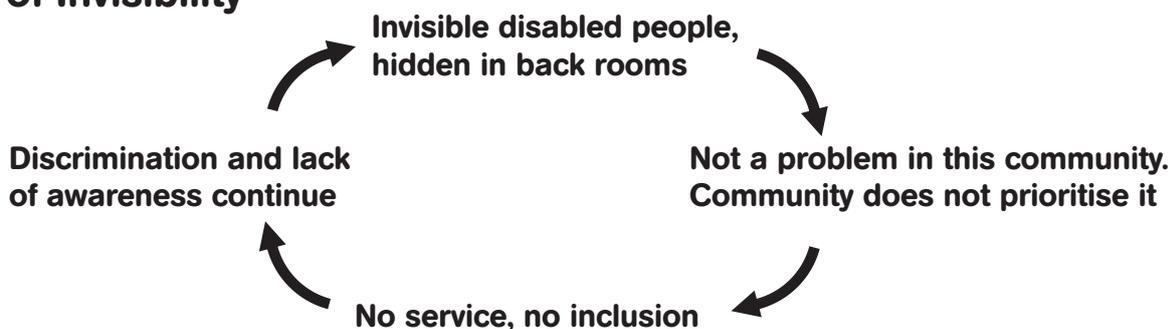
'A society which is good for disabled people is a better society for all'
(Beckles, 2004)¹

According to the Census 2001, there are 2.19 crore persons with disabilities in India who constitute 2.13 percent of the total population. This includes persons with visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech impairment, locomotor impairment and mental disabilities. Seventy five per cent of persons with disabilities live in rural areas, 51 per cent of disabled population is illiterate and only 34 per cent are employed. The earlier emphasis on medical

rehabilitation has now been replaced by an emphasis on social rehabilitation with right based approach. There has been an increasing recognition of abilities of persons with disabilities and emphasis on mainstreaming them in the society based on their capabilities.

It was long back when Charles Michel Abbe del'Epee² established the first free school for the deaf in the world in 1755 (in France). For several years, disability was not considered as an important issue. European Disability Forum (EDF) policy paper graphically represents the cyclic nature of invisibility:

Cycle of Invisibility³



1 Statement made by Dr Lisa Kauppinen, President of World Federation of the Deaf at the closing of the Copenhagen Summit

2 Chronological History at www.dwww.org

3 'EDF Policy Paper : Development Cooperation and Disability' prepared by European Disability Forum(EDF) in 2003

But disability is no longer an issue that can be conveniently brushed under the carpet. It is a volatile, dynamic and very visible field. Person with disabilities (PWDs) across the world had to fight a long battle to show the community that they are equally capable if they are just provided adequate support. The universal definition and understanding of Disability has rightfully moved from a merely 'Medical' to a 'Human Rights' framework and has heralded a paradigm shift from 'charity' to 'rights based' approach. There were/are many factors which contributed to it; few are discussed under.

Medical versus social model of disability and their implications

Thoughts change over the time. The field of disability was greatly influenced by the medical model and social model of disability. Medical and social models of disability approach disability in a totally different manner. Medical model looks at it as a problem within individual and try to correct it; whereas social model of disability takes outward look and perceives it as a result of interaction between the individual and the environment. Medical model looks at deficiency in the person, where as the social model interprets disability as a result of social and attitudinal barriers constructed by a world built for able bodied living (Hughes 1998).

Work for disabled people in the past was mainly based on either charity or medical model. Hughes very rightly points out, "...a moral call to do good work and show pity towards those less fortunate... this construction of disabled person as the object of pity ...lies at the root of many modern charities" (Hughes, 1998: 59). The 'Individual Model' of disability incorporates both the charity and the medical models. It perceives the disabled person as the problem, and does nothing to change society. The medical model is based on scientific thinking about health and disease. The service provider, be it the physician or the therapist, views the client as a person who is sick and needs treatment. The purpose is to cure the disease and to assist the patient in reaching a level of optimal functioning. Rehabilitation and habilitation go far beyond the health field and embraces a wide range of issues including education, social counseling, vocational training, transportation, accessibility and assistive technology. Oliver describes the fundamental problem with the medical model, "There are two

fundamental points that need to be made about the individual model of disability. Firstly, it locates the 'problem' of disability within the individual and secondly it sees the causes of this problem as stemming from the functional limitations or psychological losses which are assumed to arise from disability." (Oliver 1990).

Contrary to this, social model defines disability as a form of social oppression. Hughes expresses it clearly, "...it is not the physical, sensory, cognitive or mental impairment of the individual that disables, but rather disability results from the structural handicapping effects of a society geared towards able-bodiedness as the norm" (Hughes, 1998: 77). It is not the inability to walk which disables someone but the steps into the building. UPIAS document also locates the disabling causes in society. It states, "Disability is a disadvantage or restriction of activity caused by a contemporary social organisation which takes no or little account of people who have physical impairments and thus excludes them from participation in the mainstream of social activities" (UPIAS, 1976: 14). In the Social Model, disability is perceived as a relationship between the individual and society. It is consistent with the human rights approach. The Social Model does not deny or exclude the need for appropriate rehabilitation and medical treatment, but it implies that the system should adapt to the person, not the other way round.

Beckles truly said that, "A Society which is good for disabled people is a better society for all" (Beckles 2004). Look at pregnant women, old people, very young children, feeble people; they are equally in need of many of these provisions which are exclusively meant for people with disabilities. Key questions, in this model, are: 'What are the barriers that disabled people face, and keep them excluded from society?', 'How can these barriers be overcome?' etc. It emphasizes that policy should reflect an understanding of disability as relationship between a person and the society, which discriminates, excludes and marginalises them. It should focus on the barriers to participation and inclusion that disabled persons face, and state clearly the need for these to be prevented and removed (European Disability Forum 2002). There was a paradigm shift which not only influenced the disability field in general but also professionals and all stake holders. It believes that it is not just an individual's impairment which 'disables' him. The way in which society responds to him is 'disabling', creating discrimination and barriers to participation. So, there is a need for humanistic model which is based on several key principles like:

- 4 Union of the Physically Impaired Against Segregation or UPIAS' document on disability quoted by Colin Barnes in 'A legacy of oppression: A history of disability in western culture'
- 5 Education in a varied society', speech delivered at WOSO mini conference in Amersfoort on 24 January 2005 by Douwe van Houten, professor of social policy and organisation, University for Humanistics, Utrecht, the Netherlands

respect for each individual as human being, each individual has the right to be different and live life according to his/her chosen personal style and unique needs. The relationship between the service provider and the client is based on a mutual dialogue between two equal autonomous individuals, namely a relationship of "You and me" (Reiter 2000).

International Declarations and human rights approach

'While dealing with differences it is important to have two principles in mind- (i) 'EQUALITY' which means everybody can participate and if necessary receives support and (ii)'DIVERSITY' which means people are different and these differences (for example disability, sex, age, religion, class, ethnicity etc.) should be respected (Houten⁵, 2005). UPIAS first policy document said that segregated facilities were a symptom of oppression and dehumanising. The document recognised that the inability to participate in mainstreaming community life was the result of social and physical barriers (UPIAS⁴ document quoted in Swain, 1993: 36). International legal sensibilities of the right to [re]habilitation did begin with a health-based conception, but as the understanding of disability itself has evolved from a medical to a rights-based perspective, so has the understanding of the purpose and place of [re]habilitation.

Disability has increasingly been given specific mention in human rights instruments. The universal human right to non-discrimination has also increasingly been understood to include disability. Disability is in the priority agenda of UN, World Bank and many other international and national bodies. All disability related declarations and conventions consider disabled people as human beings first and emphasise that they are equally entitled to get all basic human rights. Many international declarations and documents (including International Human Rights Convention, Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action (1994), Trends and Recommendations for the World Bank, Joint Position Paper on Community Based Rehabilitation by UNESCO, ILO, WHO and UNICEF, The Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities) have been projecting human rights approach towards the issues related to disability (European Disability Forum, 2003). In 1971, the UN's Declaration of the Rights of Mentally Retarded Persons – modeled on the 1948 Declaration of Human Rights – framed the needs of disabled persons in human rights terms

for the first time, as did the subsequent Declaration on the Rights of Disabled Persons in 1975. The disability focus was beginning to comprise more than prevention and rehabilitation: the issue was re-framed to emphasise full participation of and equal opportunity for people with disabilities. The United Nation's International Year for Disabled Persons in 1981 supported the growing focus on the rights as well as the self-identified needs of disabled people. Along with the subsequent International Decade of Disabled Persons, this played a key role in focusing international attention and funding on disability issues. National groups of disabled persons were formed in many countries, including Fiji, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Uganda, China, Jamaica, the UK, South Africa, Brazil and the Philippines, which raised disability issues throughout their respective countries.

Economic implications of disability

Immediate effects of disability on society are not visible; which resulted in no planning or inadequate planning for persons with disabilities in the past. In recent times, planners have been looking towards this issue as an economic problem and estimating its magnitude and impact. By looking at the data presented in EDF policy document, many would be surprised to know that disability has a long term implication on micro as well as macro economic issues. The policy document says –

- Impact on Family: in a country with an average family size of 6 people, even if only 5% of the population is disabled, then over 25% of that community will be directly affected by disability. Given the role of extended families, then it could mean that half the population will have a disabled person within their extended family.
- According to global population growth forecasts, numbers of disabled persons in the South will increase by over 120% in the next 30 years, whilst numbers of disabled persons in the North will increase by around 40%.
- Disability and ageing: the greatest increase in numbers of disabled persons in both South and North will be in the older age groups
- General estimates provide that 10% of the world's population is constituted by disabled persons.
- Conditions such as HIV/AIDs, mental health problems, tuberculosis, chronic malaria, etc. can give rise to permanent impairments that result in exclusion and discrimination.

The document further states that if disabled persons are not included in development cooperation, this would result in the following financial implications –

- Loss of income for the disabled person, for carers and other family members due to stigma

- Loss of education for the disabled person, for siblings who are carers and for other family members due to stigma
- Social exclusion and stigma leading to loss of land rights, no access to credit schemes
- Long term loss of productive potential of disabled person due to lack of appropriate rehabilitation and opportunities.
- Additional costs to the family, community and State in caring for the disabled person who could have become independent (European Disability Forum, 2003).

Disabled themselves as role models

Those who are successful in their lives can be good examples to follow. Such people can be live examples of courage against all odds. They can boost the moral and self confidence of disabled people. At the same time they can create a positive self image in the society. In the UK disability movement, Vic Frenkelsten, Mike Oliver and many more have been proved themselves and now become champions of the cause. Similar to black power, gay pride, feminist and lesbian, today disability activists raising their voice to tell the world that they are normal. 'I will', says the spirit of bravado, 'nevertheless be normal.' The word 'normal' has a glorious sound. Yet a 'normal person' has no more real existence than an 'average man', says Hunt (1966). Such activists go further and say that 'nothing about us without us'; because they believe that problems faced by disabled people could only be effectively addressed when they are directly involved in the decision making process to remove the barriers/threats they faced. New thought is emerging which interprets disability as the result of social and attitudinal barriers constructed by a world built for able bodied living. They say that public facilities need to be made truly public and not just for able bodied citizens.

PWDs in India: From commitments to outcomes

India has more than 20 million persons living with disability (Census 2001). But low literacy, employment rates and widespread social stigma are making disabled people among the most excluded in society. Children with disabilities are less likely to be in school, disabled adults are more likely to be unemployed, and families with a disabled member are often worse off than average. Indian society has a strong religious base and traditional outlook. Family is the key unit in all social interactions. Moral values like equality, tolerance, and acceptance of others are all pervaded in social life and regarded as the

highest human possessions. Contrary to this, the condition of disabled people creates a gloomy picture. Traditionally disability is perceived as a result of i) A curse from God, ii) A black magic performed by an enemy or iii) One's own deeds from last births. It affects the family image in society and results in to family turmoil and tension. The level of acceptance of disabled person among family members is very low. In many cases, one could see two extreme situations; either neglecting the person with disability or over protecting. In many cases, family tries to hide the person. They are often pitied for what they have and looked as a burden on family.

Day by day, however, their condition has been improving due to many factors like active roles of INGO/NGO in influencing government agenda of action, development of new disability policies, more awareness about disability related issues, increasing level of education, role models from disabled community; to name a few. With better education and more access to jobs, people with disabilities can generate higher growth which will benefit the country as a whole. India has four dedicated Acts related to disability besides many constitutional provisions and in 2003 the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MSJ&E) published the 'National Policy for Persons with Disabilities' (the 'Disability Policy'). Further, India adopted a proactive approach in this area and is a signatory to many international declarations on disability. In October 2007, India has become one of the first few countries to ratify the 'UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities'; a move that shows its willingness and commitment towards the issue.

Sightsavers and its role

Sightsavers, also known as the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind, works to combat blindness in developing countries, restoring sight through specialist treatment and eye care. Sightsavers supports people who are irreversibly blind by providing education, counseling and training. Today, Sightsavers works with partners in over 30 countries and its mission has expanded to also provide services to the blind and campaign for the eradication of avoidable blindness. India, being the world's second most populous country, presents its own problems in delivering healthcare, but, together with its partners, Sightsavers has made great progress in India. In addition, many thousands of irreversibly blind people have received rehabilitation and educational support to enable them to lead lives of independence and dignity.

Sightsavers' vision is of a world in which no-one is needlessly blind and where everyone who is irreversibly blind or severely visually-impaired enjoys

the same rights, responsibilities and opportunities as their sighted peers.

Need for the study

According to the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) 2002 statistics the percentage bifurcation of disabled people in India is as follows – Locomotor: 23.04%, Speech: 05.06%, Hearing: 08.36%, Visual Impairment: 10.32%, Physical disability: 41.32% and overlapping: 11.54%. Also according to NSSO, in 2002 18.5m persons (i.e. approx 2% of Indian population) are disabled. The MSJ&E is the main agency of the central government that promotes services for the people with disabilities through its various schemes. The primary object is to promote services for people with disabilities through government and non-government organizations, so that they are encouraged to become functionally independent and productive members of the nation through opportunities of education, vocational training, medical rehabilitation, and socio-economic rehabilitation. Emphasis is also placed on coordination of services particularly those related to health, nutrition, education, science and technology, employment, sports, cultural, art and craft and welfare programs of various government and non-government organisations. Besides the state governments also have their own policies and schemes for providing support to PWDs. But nature of these services varies from state to state and is usually unknown to the PWDs in remote rural areas.

Sightsavers is developing its future strategic plan to guide its programmes in India during 2009-13. Following many recent developments, there is a need to review existing laws, policies, programmes and schemes of the central and all state governments. This will provide an authentic account of current scenario before developing future strategies and line of action. It has given the responsibility to Blind People's Association (BPA) to conduct the situational analysis study with the following purposes –

- A. To inform and guide the future strategic plan for Sightsavers, in India for the period 2009-13; and
- B. To assist the regional and area offices of Sightsavers to design better projects which would ensure maximum PWDs become aware about their rights and benefit from them.

Further, the above mentioned purposes were translated into the following 3 objectives –

- a) To compile comprehensive information on the acts, policies and schemes of central and state governments for PWDs;
- b) To describe the process for accessing various schemes available for PWDs and
- c) To provide critical insights for promoting the rights of disabled at the centre and state level where there is need and scope.

BPA has conducted the study and collected the required information. BPA's analysis and the compiled information are contained in the subsequent chapters of this document.

Chapter 2

Methodology

Considering the needs and objectives of the study, the BPA team adopted a two step process to collect the relevant information. In the initial phase, the team explored the information available from secondary sources by reviewing the various published and internet based documents. After critical analysis of the available resources and compilation, the team developed a format to collect the required information from different government offices at central as well as state level. The team also visited the Office of Chief Commissioner of Disabilities, the Rehabilitation Council of India, the National Trust and other related departments of different state governments. After collecting the information from different sources, the team compiled and critically analysed the information in the report format to achieve the 3 objectives stated in the previous chapter earlier.

The BPA research team used a multi pronged approach during the period of study. The team took different steps including literature review, visits to various government and non government organizations, liaising with Sightsavers' partners, internet based information and discussion with Sightsavers' teams. The detailed methodology is explained below.

Implementation Team

In order to achieve the above objectives a core

team was formed to look in to the progress of the work. The team comprised of –

Name of the person	Designation
1 Dr. Bhushan Punani	Executive Director, BPA
2 Mrs. Nandini Rawal	Project Director, BPA
3 Mr. Pramod Kumar Gupta	Project Consultant, Sightsavers

The team took help from different field experts within and outside of BPA as and when required.

Review Literature

The team consulted a varied source of information including various available reports from government as well as non-governmental sources, UN agencies reports, internet based material and other available sources. A non-exhaustive list of the main sources of information for the study is set out below.

- a. Report and resource material published by the Office of the Chief Commissioner of Disabilities
- b. National Policy for Persons with Disabilities published by the MS&JE
- c. Reports and resource material published by MS&JE
- d. Various legislation related to disabilities and their progress report
- e. Reports and resource material published by the National Trust

- f. Reports and resource material published by the Rehabilitation Council of India
- g. SSA-IED report from Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD)
- h. Schemes of different Ministries for Persons with Disabilities
- i. State level implementation and progress reports on PWDs
- j. NSSO Disability Survey, 2002 (58th round) reports
- k. Census 2001 reports
- l. Reports of state Commissioner of Disabilities

Field Visits

In order to fulfill the above mentioned objectives, the following institutions were visited to collect the relevant information –

- a. Office of Chief Commissioner of Disabilities
- b. Rehabilitation Council of India
- c. National Trust
- d. Selected state Commissioners of Disabilities
- e. Selected state Welfare Departments through Sightsavers' partners in the respective states

Besides, the team collaborated with other development organizations to collect the required information from different states.

Final Roadmap

This report is presented to the Sightsavers team for further discussion and comments. After incorporating the inputs from the Sightsavers' team, a final document is prepared and submitted to Sightsavers, which will give a roadmap to Sightsavers for promoting rights of PWDs in India.

Chapter 3

Legal Rights of the Disabled in India

The Indian Constitution

The Constitution of India applies uniformly to every legal citizen of India, whether they are healthy or disabled. Under the Constitution the disabled have been guaranteed the following fundamental rights:

1. The Constitution secures to the citizens including the disabled, a right of justice, liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship, equality of status and of opportunity and for the promotion of fraternity.
2. Article 15(1) enjoins on the Government not to discriminate against any citizen of India (including disabled) on the ground of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.
3. Article 15 (2) States that no citizen (including the disabled) shall be subjected to any disability, liability, restriction or condition on any of the above grounds in the matter of their access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment or in the use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of government funds or dedicated to the use of the general public. Women and children and those belonging to any socially and educationally backward classes or the Scheduled Castes and Tribes can be given the benefit of special laws or special provisions made by the State. There shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens (including the disabled) in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State.
4. No person including the disabled irrespective of his belonging can be treated as an untouchable. It would be an offence punishable in accordance with law as provided by Article 17 of the Constitution.
5. Every person including the disabled has his life and liberty guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution.
6. There can be no traffic in human beings (including the disabled), and beggar and other forms of forced labour is prohibited and the same is made punishable in accordance with law (Article 23).
7. Article 24 prohibits employment of children (including the disabled) below the age of 14 years to work in any factory or mine or to be engaged in any other hazardous employment. Even a private contractor acting for the Government cannot engage children below 14 years of age in such employment.
8. Article 25 guarantees to every citizen (including the disabled) the right to freedom of religion.

Every disabled person (like the non disabled) has the freedom of conscience to practice and propagate his religion subject to proper order, morality and health.

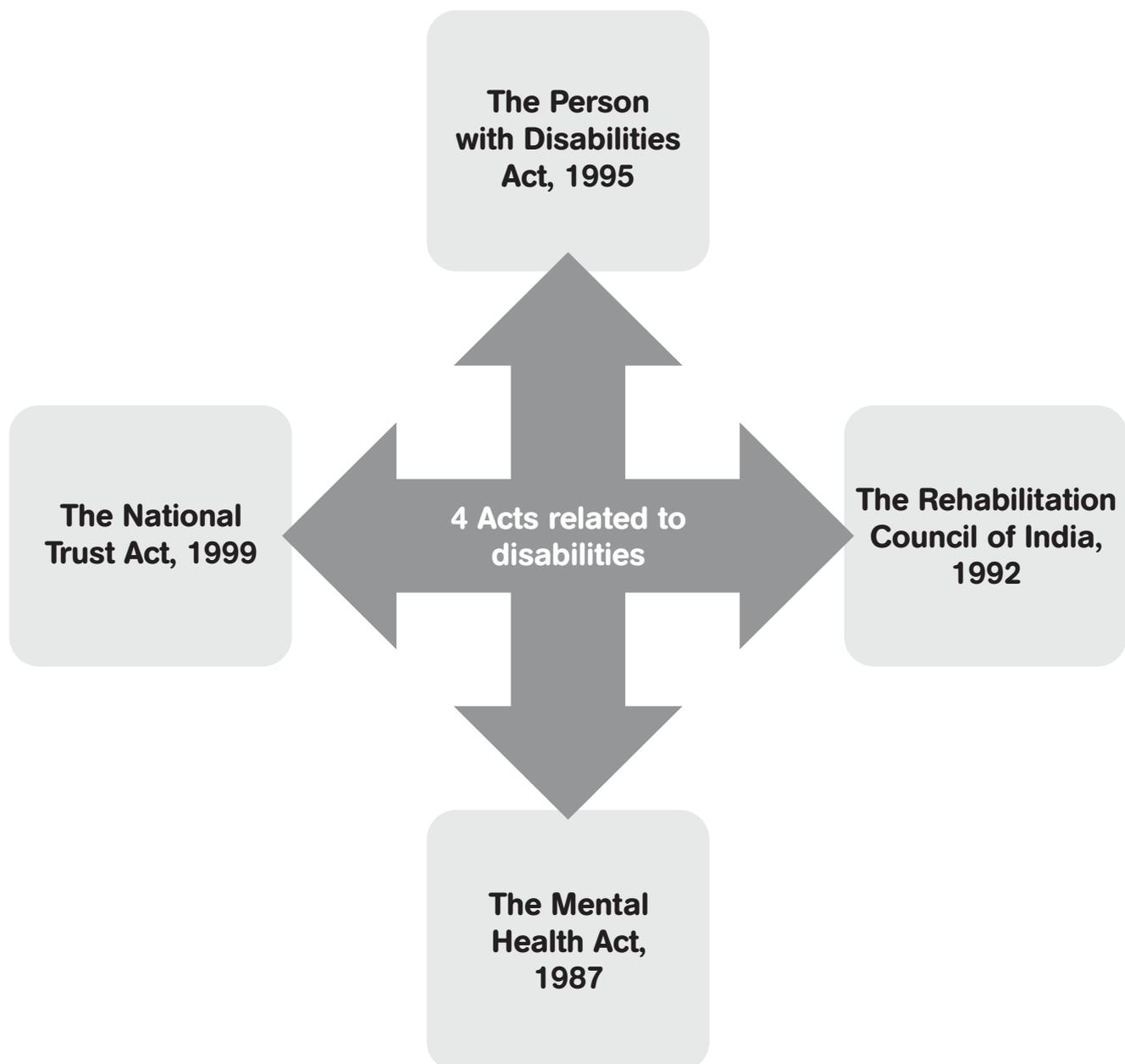
12. No disabled person owning property (like the non disabled) can be deprived of his property except by authority of law though right to property is not a fundamental right. Any unauthorised deprivation of property can be challenged by suit and for relief by way of damages.

- 9. No disabled person can be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion and maintenance of any particular religion or religious group.
- 10. No disabled person will be deprived of the right to the language, script or culture which he has or to which he belongs.

13. Every disabled person (like the non-disabled) on attainment of 18 years of age becomes eligible for inclusion of his name in the general electoral roll for the territorial constituency to which he belongs.

- 11. Every disabled person can move the Supreme Court of India to enforce his fundamental rights and the rights to move the Supreme Court is itself guaranteed by Article 32.

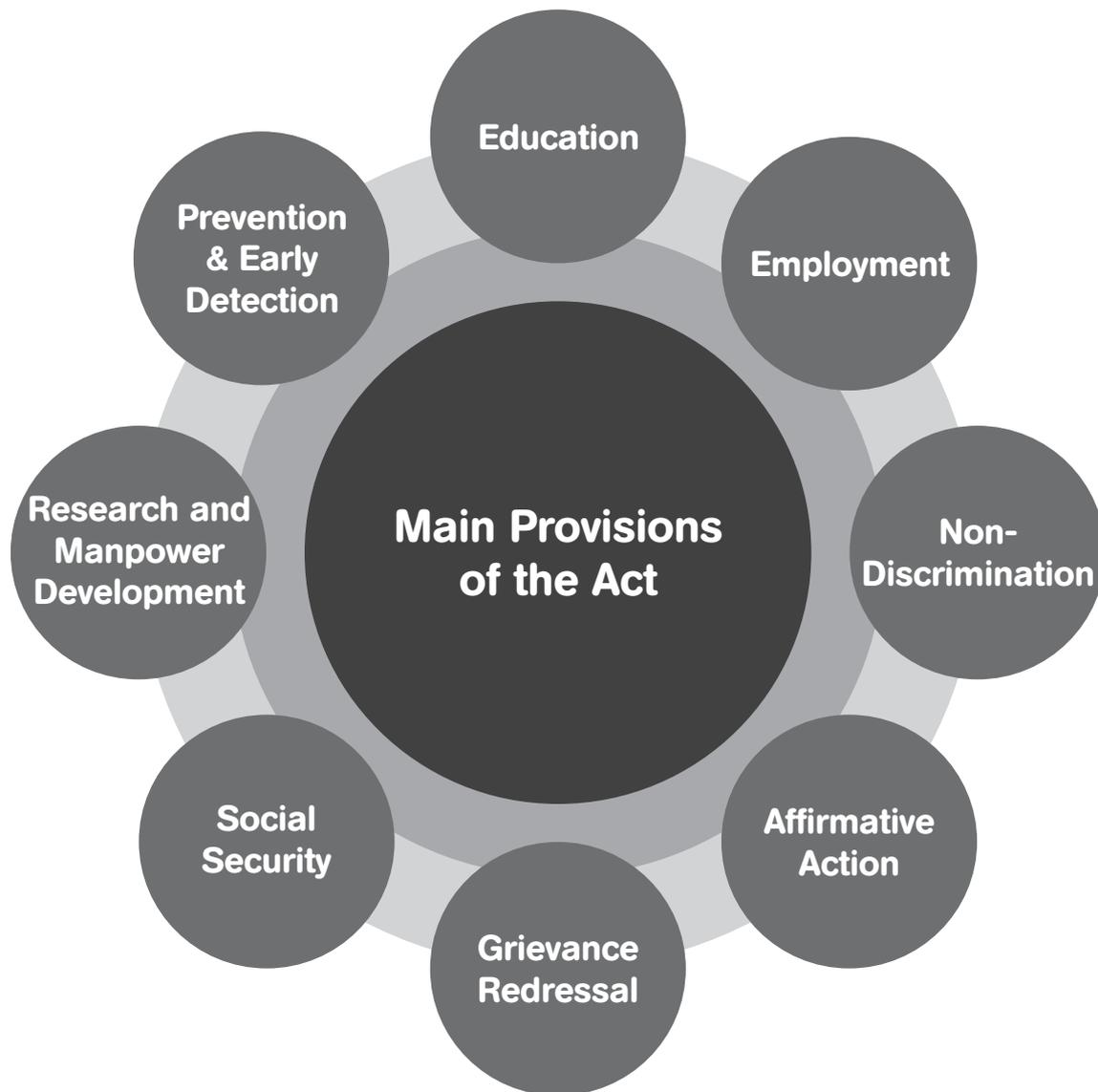
Beside these general articles, there are specific laws which promote and propagate rights of persons with disabilities, which are explained below.



The persons with disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995

The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995 had come into enforcement on February 7, 1996. It is a significant step which ensures equal opportunities for the people with disabilities and

their full participation in day to day life. The Act provides for both the preventive and promotional aspects of rehabilitation like prevention, early intervention, education, employment and vocational training, reservation, research and manpower development, creation of barrier-free environment, unemployment allowance, special insurance scheme for the disabled employees and establishment of homes for persons with severe disability etc. Main Provisions of the Act are:



1. Prevention and early detection of disabilities: The Act considers it a very important area of concern and includes following aspects
 - a. Surveys, investigations and research shall be conducted to ascertain the cause of occurrence of disabilities.
 - b. Various measures shall be taken to prevent disabilities and staff at the Primary Health Centre shall be trained to assist in this work.
 - c. All the children shall be screened once in a year for identifying 'at-risk' cases.
 - d. Awareness campaigns shall be launched and sponsored to disseminate information.
 - e. Measures shall be taken for pre-natal, peri natal, and post-natal care of the mother and child.
2. Education: Elementary Education is a fundamental right under the Indian Constitution. PWD Act also enumerates various provisions to ensure right education with right format at right time for children with disabilities. It includes

- a. Every Child with disability shall have the right to free education till the age of 18 years in integrated schools or special schools.
 - b. Appropriate transportation, removal of architectural barriers and restructuring or modifications in the examination system shall be ensured for the benefit of children with disabilities.
 - c. Children with disabilities shall have the right to free books, scholarships, uniform and other learning material.
 - d. Special schools for children with disabilities shall be equipped with vocational training facilities.
 - e. Non-formal education shall be promoted for children with disabilities.
 - f. Teachers' Training Institutions shall be established to develop requisite manpower.
 - g. Parents may move to an appropriate forum for the redressal of grievances regarding the placement of their children with disabilities.
3. Employment: One of many aims of education is to prepare the person for future employment. This Act ensures many things including
- a. 3% of vacancies in government employment shall be reserved for people with disabilities; 1% each for the persons suffering from
 - i. Blindness or Low Vision
 - ii. Hearing Impairment
 - iii. Locomotor Disabilities and Cerebral Palsy
 - b. Suitable Scheme shall be formulated for
 - i. The training and welfare of persons with disabilities
 - ii. The relaxation of upper age limit
 - iii. Regulating employment
 - iv. Health and Safety measures and creation of a non-handicapping, environment in places where persons with disabilities are employed.
 - c. Government Educational Institutes and other Educational Institutes receiving grant from Government shall reserve at least 3% seats for people with disabilities.
 - d. No employee can be sacked or demoted if they become disabled during service, although they can be moved to another post with the same pay and condition. No promotion can be denied because of impairment.
4. Non-Discrimination: Act enumerates
- a. Public building, rail compartments, buses, ships and air-crafts will be designed to give easy access to the disabled people.
 - b. In all public places and in waiting rooms, the toilets shall be wheel chair accessible. Braille and sound symbols are also to be provided in all elevators (lifts).
 - c. All the places of public utility shall be made barrier-free by providing the ramps.
5. Affirmative Action: Act also provides other measures including
- a. Aids and Appliances shall be made available to the people with disabilities.
 - b. Allotment of land shall be made at concessional rates to the people with disabilities for
 - i. House
 - ii. Business
 - iii. Special recreational centres
 - iv. Special schools
 - v. Research schools
 - vi. Factories by entrepreneurs with disability,
6. Research and Manpower Development: Act accepts the importance of research and manpower development in the field of rehabilitation. It says -
- a. Research in the following areas shall be sponsored and promoted towards
 - i. Prevention of disability
 - ii. Rehabilitation including community based rehabilitation
 - iii. Development of assistive devices
 - b. Job identification
 - c. On site modifications of offices and factories
 - d. Financial assistance shall be made available to the universities, other institutions of higher learning, professional bodies and non-government research- units or institutions, for undertaking research for special education, rehabilitation and manpower development.
7. Social Security: Under this section, the Act says:
- a. Financial assistance to non-government organisations for the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
 - b. Insurance coverage for the benefit of the government employees with disabilities.
 - c. Unemployment allowance to the people with disabilities who are registered with the special employment exchange for more than a year and could not find any gainful occupation.
8. Grievance Redressal: The Act provides a mechanism to address grievances of persons with disabilities. In case of violation of the rights, as

prescribed in this act, people with disabilities may move an application to the:

- a. Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities in the Centre or
- b. Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities in the State.

The Mental Health Act, 1987

According to the WHO estimates, it's believed that more than 130 million people suffer from one or other mental disorder(s) in India. The Disorders ranges from Depression, to Anxiety, to Psychosomatic disorders and Schizophrenia with others. It's also found that more than 75% are not getting any service. By 2020, Depression is expected to become the 2nd largest illness in the world (Tol, Ahmedabad; February 12, 09). Under the Mental Health Act 1987 mentally ill persons are entitled to the following rights:

1. A right to be admitted, treated and cared in a psychiatric hospital or psychiatric nursing home or convalescent home established or maintained by the Government or any other person for the treatment and care of mentally ill persons (other than the general hospitals or nursing homes of the Government).
2. Mentally ill prisoners and minors have a right of treatment in psychiatric hospitals or psychiatric nursing homes of the Government.
3. Minors under the age of 16 years, persons addicted to alcohol or other drugs which lead to behavioral changes, and those convicted of any offence are entitled to admission, treatment and care in separate psychiatric hospitals or nursing homes established or maintained by the Government.
4. Mentally ill persons have the right to get regulated, directed and coordinated mental health services from the Government. The Central Authority and the State Authorities set up under the Act have the responsibility of such regulation and issue of licenses for establishing and maintaining psychiatric hospitals and nursing homes.
5. Treatment at Government hospitals and nursing homes mentioned above can be obtained either as in patient or on an out-patients basis.
6. Mentally ill persons can seek voluntary admission in such hospitals or nursing homes and minors can seek admission through their guardians. Admission can be sought for by the relatives of the mentally ill person on behalf of the latter. Applications can also be made to the local magistrate for grants of such (reception) orders.
7. The police have an obligation to take into protective custody a wandering or neglected mentally ill person, and inform his relative, and also have to produce such a person before the local magistrate for issue of reception orders.
8. Mentally ill persons have the right to be discharged when cured and entitled to 'leave' the mental health facility in accordance with the provisions in the Act.
9. Where mentally ill persons own properties including land which they cannot themselves manage, the district court upon application has to protect and secure the management of such properties by entrusting the same to a 'Court of Wards', by appointing guardians of such mentally ill persons or appointment of managers of such property.
10. The costs of maintenance of mentally ill persons detained as in-patient in any government psychiatric hospital or nursing home shall be borne by the state government concerned unless such costs have been agreed to be borne by the relative or other person on behalf of the mentally ill person and no provision for such maintenance has been made by order of the District Court. Such costs can also be borne out of the estate of the mentally ill person.
11. Mentally ill persons undergoing treatment shall not be subjected to any indignity (whether physical or mental) or cruelty. Mentally ill persons cannot be used without their own valid consent for purposes of research, though they could receive their diagnosis and treatment.
12. Mentally ill persons who are entitled to any pay, pension, gratuity or any other form of allowance from the government (such as government servants who become mentally ill during their tenure) cannot be denied of such payments. The person who is in-charge of such mentally person or his dependents will receive such payments after the magistrate has certified the same.
13. A mentally ill person shall be entitled to the services of a legal practitioner by order of the magistrate or district court if he has no means to engage a legal practitioner or his circumstances

so warrant in respect of proceedings under the Act.

The Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992

Persons with disabilities in India have been receiving rehabilitation services for more than 100 years. However, before establishment of RCI, there were hardly any planned efforts made in the field for developing trained manpower. Lack of appropriate trained manpower has been one of the major constraints in expansion of rehabilitation services in the country. The training programmes in the field of rehabilitation/ special education were

- Isolated and ad-hoc in nature
- With no standard syllabi
- Having no uniformity in the teaching curriculum run by various institutions at different levels (the Under-Graduate, Graduate and Post-Graduate)

It was, therefore, decided by the Government of India in 1986 to set up a Rehabilitation Council to be responsible for:

- a. Training policies and programmes;
- b. To standardise the training courses for professionals dealing with persons with disabilities;
- c. To grant recognition to the institutions running these training courses;
- d. To maintain a Central Rehabilitation Register of rehabilitation professionals and
- e. To promote research in Rehabilitation and Special Education.

In order to give statutory powers to the Council for carrying out its duties effectively the Rehabilitation Council of India Act 1992 was passed by the Parliament which came into force with effect from 22nd June 1993. This Act provides guarantees so as to ensure the good quality of services rendered by various rehabilitation personnel. Following is the list of such guarantees:

1. To have the right to be served by trained and qualified rehabilitation professionals, whose names are borne on the Register maintained by the Council.
2. To have the guarantee of maintenance of minimum standards of education required for recognition of rehabilitation qualification by

universities or institutions in India.

3. To have the guarantee of maintenance of standards of professional conduct and ethics by rehabilitation professionals in order to protect against the penalty of disciplinary action and removal from the Register of the Council.
4. To have the guarantee of regulation of the profession of rehabilitation professionals by a statutory council under the control of the central government and within the bounds prescribed by the statute.

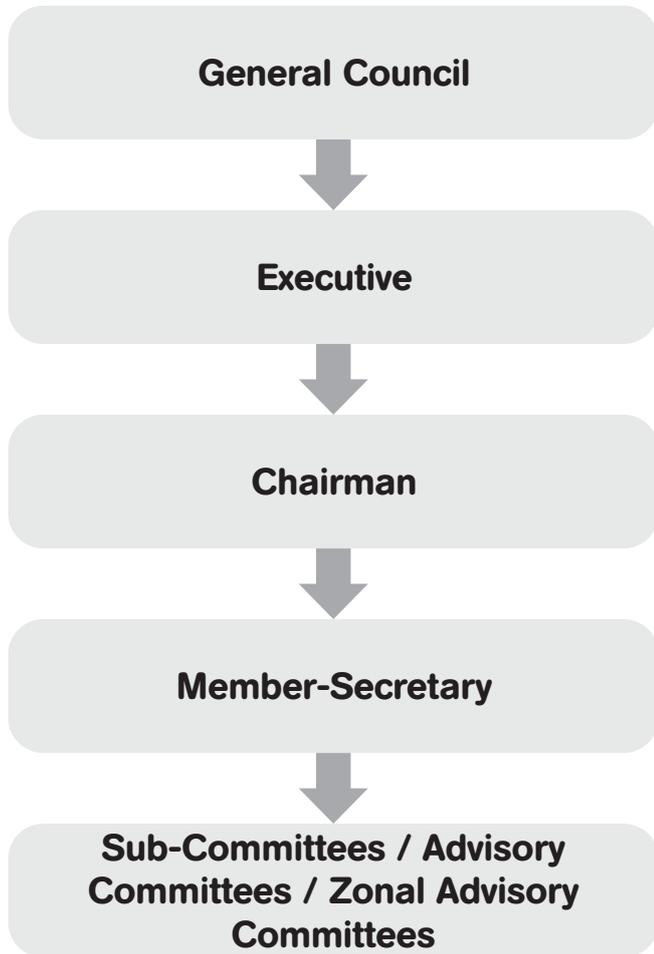
RCI is the only institution which takes care of manpower development of different categories of professionals for comprehensive rehabilitation of persons with disability to meet the needs of their entire life cycle, i.e., physical and medical rehabilitation; educational rehabilitation; vocational rehabilitation; and social rehabilitation. It has the following objectives:

- a. To regulate the training policies and programmes in the field of rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- b. To bring about standardisation of training courses for rehabilitation professionals/ personnel dealing with persons with disabilities.
- c. To prescribe minimum standards of education and training in the field of rehabilitation uniformly throughout the country.
- d. To regulate these standards in all training institutions uniformly throughout the country.
- e. To recognize foreign degrees/diplomas/ certificates in the field of rehabilitation awarded by universities/institutions on reciprocal basis.
- f. To maintain Central Rehabilitation Register of professionals/ personnel possessing the recognised rehabilitation qualifications.
- g. To collect information on regular basis, on education and training in the field of rehabilitation of persons with disabilities from institutions in India and abroad.
- h. To encourage continuing rehabilitation education by way of collaboration with organisations working in the field of rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.
- i. To promote research in rehabilitation and special education.

The Council functions under the overall supervision of the **General Council**. The General Council is the supreme body and it functions with the help of an **Executive Committee** and various committees of experts drawn from different disciplines. For professional and efficient functioning, the Council has set up a number of **Expert Committees** which meet

regularly to consider all aspects of implementation of any programme, keeping in view the minimum level of standards to be maintained. These committees give guidelines for infrastructural facilities, faculty, their qualifications, equipments, etc., for various levels of programmes.

Organisational Chart of RCI



Training Programmes: To regulate the training policies and programmes, the Council undertakes fundamental studies in developing training programmes. In development of any new programme, the Council studies different types of literature available on the subject. It compiles and collates, keeping in mind the need of the country and present the same in a seminar/ workshop where delegates from different institutions participate. The proceedings of the workshop are reviewed by a core group of experts and later on the expert group dealing with the subject clears the draft curriculum and it is placed before the Executive Committee and the General Council of the RCI which approves the same for implementation throughout the country.

The Central Rehabilitation Register (CRR): The

Central Rehabilitation Register (CRR) is meant for maintaining the record of all Rehabilitation Professionals/ Personnel who are offered registration by the Council. These professionals/ personnel are eligible to work in rehabilitation field. If someone works with people with disabilities without having RCI registration, s/he is liable to get punishment under the Act.

Categories of Rehabilitation Professionals: Council has identified different categories of Rehabilitation professionals to satisfy the varied needs of the field and the target population. These are listed under-

1. Audiologists and speech therapists
2. Clinical psychologists
3. Hearing aid and ear mould technicians
4. Rehabilitation engineers and technicians
5. Special teachers for education and training the handicapped
6. Vocational counsellors, employment officers and placement officers dealing with the handicapped
7. Multipurpose rehabilitation therapists and technicians
8. Speech pathologists
9. Rehabilitation psychologists
10. Rehabilitation social workers
11. Rehabilitation practitioners in mental retardation
12. Orientation and mobility specialists
13. Community based rehabilitation professionals
14. Rehabilitation counsellors/ administrators
15. Prosthetists and orthotists
16. Rehabilitation workshop managers

Recognition of Training Institutions: The Council lays down policy parameters regarding various aspects of training and education in the field of Rehabilitation and all institutions have to seek recognition from RCI as per provision of RCI Act 1992. The institutions desirous of conducting the Rehabilitation training programme or already conducting such courses, wherein degree/ diploma/ certificate etc., are awarded should apply to RCI for recognition. The institutions will be recognised to run the training courses in the field of rehabilitation after evaluation of their infrastructural facilities by the RCI's Visiting Experts team.

Zonal Advisory Committees of RCI: The Council has set up Zonal Advisory Committees with the objective of giving an opportunity to regional institutions to share the responsibility of some of its activities. This will not only assist in creating greater awareness in rural and remote areas, but will also help in strengthening uniformity and ensuring rapid progress in the development of programmes/ schemes to suit the regional needs. The institutions and professionals working in the zone can have better interaction with

Zonal Advisory Committees which will also act as information centres. For this purpose, seven Zonal Advisory Committees (ZACs) have been formed.

The National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999

The Central Government has the obligation to set up, in accordance with this Act and for the purpose of the benefit of the disabled, the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disability at New Delhi. The National Trust created by the Central Government has to ensure that the objects for which it has been set up as enshrined in Section 10 of this Act have to be fulfilled.

Objectives of the Act: This Act provides for the constitution of a national body for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities. Such a national body will be a trust whose objects are as under:

1. To enable and empower persons with disability to live as independently and as fully as possible within and as close to the community to which they belong
2. To strengthen facilities to provide support to persons with disability to live within their own families
3. To extend support to registered organisation to provide need based services during the period of crisis in the family of persons with disability
4. To deal with problems of persons with disability who do not have family support;
5. To promote measures for the care and protection of persons with disability in the event of death of their parent or guardian
6. To evolve procedure for the appointment of guardians and trustees for persons with disability requiring such protection
7. To facilitate the realisation of equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation of persons with disability
8. To do any other act, which is incidental to the aforesaid objects

The Act received the assent of the President on 30th December, 1999 and extends to the whole of India. The Trust announces various schemes for the welfare of the groups enumerated in the Act. The Act has following salient features:

1. **Registration of Associations with the Board:** Any association of persons with disability or any association of parents of disabled persons or voluntary organisations can apply to the Board for registration. If the application is genuine and is accompanied by necessary documents and fees, the association will be registered. Upon registration, the association can have access to or obtain a copy of any book and documents maintained by the Board. The Board will determine the pre-funding status of registered organisations seeking financial assistance in accordance with regulations. The Board will also hold every year a meeting of registered organisations.
2. **Local Level Committees:** The Board will have to constitute Local Level Committees in each district comprising of District Magistrate or the District Commissioner along with one representative from a registered organisation and a person with disability for a period of three years to act as a Local Level Committee. These Local Level Committees have to meet at least once in three months to execute various functions of the Trust.
3. **Appointment of Guardians for Persons with Disability:** A parent or relative of a person with disability may apply to the Local Level Committee for appointment of a guardian for a person with disability. A registered organisation can also make such an application with consent of the natural guardian of the disabled person. The Local Level Committee will examine whether the person with disability needs a guardian and for what purpose and also lay down the duties of the guardian. The guardian will be responsible for the maintenance of the person with disability. The guardian will also submit to the Local Level Committee inventory and annual accounts of the property and assets, claims and liabilities in respect of such person with disability. A guardian so appointed can be removed for negligence or for misappropriating the property of the person with disability.

In addition to the above legislation, there are many provisions under different headings which ensure equal opportunities to and protect the rights of persons with disabilities.

These individual articles are summarized below.

1. Education Law for the Disabled

The right to education is available to all citizens including the disabled. Article 29(2) of the Constitution provides that no citizen shall be denied

admission into any educational institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on the ground of religion, race, caste or language.

Article 45 of the Constitution directs the State to provide free and compulsory education for all children (including the disabled) until they attain the age of 14 years. No child can be denied admission into any education institution maintained by the State or receiving aid out of State funds on the ground of religion, race, caste or language.

2. Health Laws

Article 47 of the constitution imposes on the Government a primary duty to raise the level of nutrition and standard of living of its people and make improvements in public health - particularly to bring about prohibition of the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to one's health except for medicinal purposes.

3. Family Laws

Various laws relating to marriage enacted by the Government for different communities apply equally to the disabled. In most of these Acts it has been provided that the following circumstances will disable a person from undertaking a marriage. These are:

- a. Where either party is an idiot or lunatic,
- b. Where one party is unable to give a valid consent due to unsoundness of mind or is suffering from a mental disorder of such a kind and extent as to be unfit for 'marriage for procreation of children'
- c. Where the parties are within the degree of prohibited relationship or are sapindas of each other unless permitted by custom or usage
- d. Where either party has a living spouse

The rights and duties of the parties to a marriage whether in respect of disabled or non-disabled persons are governed by the specific provisions contained in different marriage Acts, such as the Hindu Marriage Act 1955, the Christian Marriage Act 1872 and the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act 1935. Other marriage Acts which exist include; the Special Marriage Act 1954 (for spouses of differing religions) and the Foreign Marriage Act 1959 (for marriage outside India). The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929 as amended in 1978 to prevent the solemnisation of child marriages also applies to the disabled. A disabled person cannot act as a guardian of a minor under the

Guardian and Wards Act 1890 if the disability is of such a degree that one cannot act as a guardian of the minor. A similar position is taken by the Hindu Minority and Guardianship Act, 1956 as also under the Muslim Law.

4. Succession Laws for the Disabled

Under the Hindu Succession Act 1956 (which applies to Hindus) it has been specifically provided that physical disability or physical deformity would not disentitle a person from inheriting ancestral property. Similarly, in the Indian Succession Act 1925 which applies in the case of intestate and testamentary succession, there is no provision which deprives the disabled from inheriting an ancestral property. The position with regard to Parsis and the Muslims is the same. In fact a disabled person can also dispose his property by writing a 'will' provided he understands the import and consequence of writing a will at the time when a will is written. Even blind persons or those who are deaf can make their wills if they understand the import and consequence of doing it.

5. Labour Laws for the Disabled

The rights of the disabled have not been spelt out so well in the labour legislations but provisions which cater to the disabled in their relationship with the employer are contained in delegated legislations such as rules, regulations and standing orders. Further, PWD Act 1995 also provides answer to various issues related to disabled person employed.

6. Judicial Procedures for the Disabled

Under the Designs Act 1911 which deals with the law relating to the protection of designs any person having jurisdiction in respect of the property of a disabled person (who is incapable of making any statement or doing anything required to be done under this Act) may be appointed by the Court under Section 74, to make such statement or do such thing in the name and on behalf of the person subject to the disability. The disability may be lunacy or other disability.

7. Income Tax Section 80DD

Section 80 DD provides for a deduction in respect of the expenditure incurred by an individual or Hindu Undivided Family resident in India on the medical treatment (including nursing), training, and rehabilitation etc. of handicapped dependants. For officiating the increased cost of such maintenance, the limit of the deduction has been raised from ₹ 12,000 to ₹ 20,000.

8. Income Tax Section 80V

A new section 80V has been introduced to ensure that the parent in whose hands income of a permanently disabled minor has been clubbed under Section 64, is allowed to claim a deduction up to ₹ 20,000 in terms of Section 80 V.

9. Income Tax Section 88B

This section provides for an additional rebate from the net tax payable by a resident individual who has attained the age of 65 years. It has been amended to increase the rebate from 10% to 20% in the cases where the gross total income does not exceed ₹ 75,000 (as against a limit of ₹ 50,000 specified earlier).

National Policy for Persons with Disabilities

National Policy for Persons with Disabilities has been announced in February, 2006. The National Policy recognises that Persons with Disabilities are valuable human resource for the country and seeks to create an environment that provides them equal opportunities, protection of their rights and full participation in society. The focus of the policy is on (a) Prevention of Disabilities and (b) Rehabilitation Measures. The salient features of the National Policy are described below:

Introduction: The Constitution of India ensures equality, freedom, justice and dignity of all individuals and implicitly mandates an inclusive society for all including persons with disabilities. In the recent years, there have been vast and positive changes in the perception of the society towards persons with disabilities. It has been realised that a majority of persons with disabilities can lead a better quality of life if they have equal opportunities and effective access to rehabilitation measures.

National Policy Statement: The National Policy recognises that Persons with Disabilities are valuable human resource for the country and seeks to create an environment that provides them equal opportunities, protects their rights and ensures their full participation in society.

Focus Areas: The policy document enumerates 12 focus areas, which are explained below-

1. **Prevention of Disabilities:** Since disability, says the document, in a large number of cases, is preventable, there will be strong emphasis on prevention of disabilities.

Programme for prevention of diseases, which result in disability and the creation of awareness regarding measures to be taken for prevention of disabilities during the period of pregnancy and thereafter will be intensified and their coverage expanded.

2. **Rehabilitation Measures:** Rehabilitation measures can be classified into three distinct groups: (i) physical rehabilitation, which includes early detection and intervention, counseling and medical interventions and provision of aids and appliances including the development of rehabilitation professionals; (ii) educational rehabilitation including vocational education and (iii) economic rehabilitation to live a dignified life in society.
3. **Women with disabilities:** According to Census-2001, there are 93.01 lakh women with disabilities, which constitute 42.46 percent of total disabled population. Women with disabilities require protection against exploitation and abuse. Special programmes will be developed for education, employment and providing of other rehabilitation services to women with disabilities keeping in view their special needs.
4. **Children with Disabilities:** Children with disabilities are the most vulnerable group and need special attention. The Government would strive to
 - Ensure right to care, protection and security for children with disabilities;
 - Ensure the right to development with dignity and equality creating an enabling environment where children can exercise their rights, enjoy equal opportunities and full participation in accordance with various statutes; (c) Ensure inclusion and effective access to education, health, vocational training along with specialised rehabilitation services and (d) Ensure the right to development as well as recognition of special needs and of care, and protection of children with severe disabilities.
5. **Barrier-free environment:** The Government will strive to achieve the goal of barrier free design to provide an environment that supports the independent functioning of individuals so that they can participate without assistance, in everyday activities.
6. **Issue of Disability Certificates:** The Government will ensure that the persons with disabilities obtain the disability certificates without any difficulty in the shortest possible time by adoption of simple, transparent and client-

friendly procedures.

7. **Social Security:** Disabled persons, their families and care givers incur substantial additional expenditure for facilitating activities of daily living, medical care, transportation, assistive devices, etc. Therefore, there is a need to provide them social security by various means. Beside the Central Government, the State Governments will be encouraged to develop a comprehensive social security policy for persons with disabilities.

8. **Promotion of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):** The National Policy recognises the NGO sector as a very important institutional mechanism to provide affordable services to complement the endeavors of the Government. It says that NGO sector has played a significant role in the provisions of services for persons with disabilities. Government has also been actively involving them in policy formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring and has been seeking their advice on various issues relating to persons with disabilities. Interaction with NGOs will be enhanced on various disability issues regarding planning, policy formulation and implementation. Networking, exchange of information and sharing of good practices amongst NGOs will be encouraged and facilitated.

9. **Collection of regular information on Persons with Disabilities:** There is a need for regular collection, compilation and analysis of data relating to socio-economic conditions of persons with disabilities. The National Sample Survey Organization has been collecting information on Socio-economic conditions of persons with disabilities on regular basis once in ten years since 1981. The Census has also started collection of information on persons with disabilities from the Census-2001. The National Sample Survey Organization will have to collect the information on persons with disabilities at least once in five years. The differences in the definitions adopted by the two agencies will be reconciled.

10. **Research:** For improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities, research will be supported on their socio-economic and cultural context, cause of disabilities, early childhood education methodologies, development of user-friendly aids and appliances and all matters connected with

disabilities which will significantly alter the quality of their life and civil society's ability to respond to their concerns.

11. **Sports, Recreation and Cultural life:** The contribution of sports for its therapeutic and community spirit is undeniable. Persons with disabilities have right to access sports, recreation and cultural facilities. The Government will take necessary steps to provide them opportunity for participation in various sports, recreation and cultural activities.

12. **Amendments to existing Acts dealing with the Persons with Disabilities:** A decade has passed since the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 came into operation. With the experience gained in the implementation of the Act and developments in the disability sector, certain amendments to the Act have become necessary. Government will make amendments to various Acts dealing with the Persons with Disabilities on a regular interval in a consultative manner involving different stakeholders.

Principal Areas of Intervention: Policy document also talks about the interventions under the following area

- Prevention, early detection and intervention
- Programmes of rehabilitation
- Human resource development
- Education of persons with disabilities
- Employment
- Barrier-free environment
- Social protection
- Research
- Sports, recreation and cultural activities

Responsibility for Implementation: The document clearly mentions that the MSJ&E will be the nodal Ministry to coordinate all matters relating to the implementation of the Policy. It further enumerates that an inter-ministerial body to coordinate matters relating to implementation of National Policy will be formed. All stakeholders including prominent NGOs, Disabled Peoples Organizations, advocacy groups and family associations of parents/ guardians, experts and professionals will also be represented on this body. It further says that similar arrangements will be encouraged at the State and Districts levels. District Level Committees are to coordinate the matters relating to the implementation of the policy at local level. The Chief Commissioner for Disabilities at Central level and State Commissioners at the State level shall play key role in implementation of National Policy, apart from their statutory responsibilities.

The document also elaborates that other concerned

ministries (The Ministries of Home Affairs, Health & Family Welfare, Rural Development, Urban Development, Youth Affairs & Sports, Railways, Science & Technology, Statistics & Programme Implementation, Labour, Panchayati Raj and Departments of Elementary Education & Literacy, Secondary & Higher Education, Road Transport & Highways, Public Enterprises, Revenue, Women & Child Development, Information Technology and Personnel & Training) will setup necessary mechanism for implementation of the policy. A five-year perspective plan and annual plans setting targets and financial allocations will be prepared by each Ministry/ Department. The annual report of these Ministries/ Departments will indicate progress achieved during the year.

Every five years a comprehensive review will be done on the implementation of the National Policy. A document indicating status of implementation and a roadmap for five years shall be prepared based on the deliberations in a national level convention. State Governments and Union Territory administrations will be urged to take steps for drawing up State Policy and develop action plan.

Chapter 4

Disability Policies and Related Guidelines by Various State Governments

After the announcement of National Policy for Persons with Disabilities, there were/are some efforts at states level too. However, development of state-level disability policies has remained relatively neglected. To date, only few states have made progress in this regard. Some of the states which announced/drafted disability policies are Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, MP and Tamil Nadu. Those policies are summarised below.

Bihar State Comprehensive Policy for Persons with Disabilities (Draft)

Bihar state policy is one of the most comprehensive documents considering the prevailing policies for persons with disabilities in the country and could provide a model for future national and state-level policy development. The Bihar government appointed a task force on Disability in January 2008 with the primary task of developing a Comprehensive Disability Policy for Bihar, in line with Biwako Millennium Framework and UN Standard Rules on the Equalisation of Opportunities for PWDs. World Bank agreed to provide technical support in the endeavour of preparing the policy and related supportive activities. Main features of the policy are narrated below:

1 Status of Disability: The document says that Bihar has 3.2% of total population as

disabled and ranks first in the country (as per Census 2001). It further mentions that around 90% of the disabled live in rural areas.

- 2 Policy Statements:** The draft policy looks into disability in a holistic manner where every facet of life has been valued and included. Accordingly, policy statement has been written appreciating the role of multiple players (departments) to function in convergence. It has 4 basic premises:
- a. Bihar is one of the most diverse states in the country with a long-standing commitment of becoming an inclusive society where all residents, many of whom are People with Disabilities, are able to fully participate in the social, cultural, recreational, economic and political life of the state and of the nation. Inclusion is the primary social objective. All citizens should have the opportunity and right to participate without discrimination, attitudinal and environmental or service barriers in all walks of life.
 - b. Recognizing the rights and responsibilities, the Government of Bihar will ensure that every Person with Disability/s in Bihar achieve full emancipation and self esteem by equalisation of opportunities through creation of enabling environment, so that the society is benefitted from their untapped talent and contribution.
 - c. The Government will endeavor to promote

community participation in order to generate adequate community response towards the causes of disability.

- d. The Government will ensure the promotion of innovative and adaptive technology in order to create and facilitate access to social and economic rehabilitation for Persons with Disabilities

3 Objectives: The broad objectives of the Comprehensive Disability Policy Framework include:

- a. The facilitation of the inclusion of disability rights, values and practices into government developmental strategies, planning and programs;
- b. The development of an integrated management system for the coordination of disability planning, implementation and monitoring in the various line functions at all spheres of government;
- c. Establishing of state and subsequent district structures such as State Integrated Disability and Rehabilitation Program that will continuously update and link strategy and policy developments with operational planning initiatives involving all role-players (DPOs, government, the private sector).
- d. The development of capacity building strategies that will enhance Government's ability at all levels to implement recommendations contained in the Comprehensive Disability Policy Framework.
- e. A comprehensive plan of action that will include in addition to programme planning, a strong public education and awareness-raising program aimed at changing fundamental prejudices in society.

4 Guiding Principles: Principles upon which the Strategy is based include:

- a. Self-Representation
- b. Inclusion
- c. Sustainability
- d. Commitment to Quality

5 Sector wise policy guidelines: Clear direction is laid down in the draft document. Each area is clearly defined with background information, policy statement and future strategies to follow. Broad areas include:

- a. Public education and awareness raising: The policy statement for public awareness states - 'The Government will implement public awareness programmes that create a positive and accommodating environment for PWDs in which diversity is respected and valued'. Strategies for public education and awareness rising include:
 - i. The development of a multi-sectoral integrated disability awareness strategy, which would send this message to the different communities through a variety of media.
 - ii. Inclusion of appropriate curriculum on disability in primary and secondary school syllabus
 - iii. Implementation of disability awareness projects for journalists and the public broadcaster including the disability rights message as opposed to the 'pity' and 'heroic' images and the positive use of role models from all groups
 - iv. Disability awareness programs within every line function in government; increased visibility of people with disabilities in the government circle, media and in society.

Likewise each sub sector is defined clearly with policy statement and strategies to follows. The sectors mentioned in the draft document are listed below-

- b. Social Aspects: Emphasis on promoting CBR/ inclusive approaches for rehabilitation and education of PWDs where inclusion and community participation is ensured.
- c. Healthcare: Promotes a comprehensive healthcare system which is sensitive towards the needs of PWDs
- d. Legal Aid: To ensure legal rights of PWDs are not violated and there is no discrimination due to disability.
- e. Social Security and Safety Net: To analyse the structure of the existing social security schemes and with regard to how not to create unnecessary dependence and how to promote social integration and economic independence for the PWDs.
- f. Economic Aspects: To ensure economic empowerment through rightful opportunities for PWDs.
- g. Human Resource and Skills Development: Human resource development (HRD) is one of the key elements that can be used to break the cycle of poverty and underdevelopment. 'The Government shall ensure the appropriate development of the capacity of PWDs to participate more effectively in the economic

development of their communities and the society as a whole'; says the document.

- h. Political and Cultural Aspects: The Government will develop and extend sporting and cultural activities for people with disabilities so that they can participate in sport for recreational, competitive and therapeutic purposes.
- i. Infrastructure Aspects: It includes guidelines on Barrier Free Access, Housing and Transportation.
- j. Special Focus: On vulnerable groups i.e. Girls and Women with Disabilities; PWDs affected during disaster; Access to Goods, Facilities and Services; Prevention; Research and Development and Statistics.

6 Implementation: It is recommended that the State Commissioner for Disability should have the prime responsibility of ensuring the compliance of various sections and spirit of the policy. The State Disability Commissioner should preferably be of the rank of Secretary to the Government. There is a serious and urgent requirement to enhance adequate human resources at district level. Every district need to be equipped with senior level officer with adequate support staff. The staff should be adequately trained in Rehabilitation Management from a competent organisation.

Furthermore, it is proposed that a separate structure viz, State Integrated Disability & Rehabilitation Program be established as a registered society that should function as a permanent implementation as well as consultative structure to the government, supported by, and working closely with the State Disability Commissioner. It also enumerates the functions of the State Integrated Disability & Rehabilitation Program.

7 Monitoring: While all monitoring structures in Bihar should include the monitoring of the rights of PWDs in their mandates, the Commissioner for Disability should have a special responsibility for this task. The State Integrated Disability & Rehabilitation Program should also have an essential monitoring role.

8 Budget Projection: An estimate has been drawn out on the basis of sectoral strategic intervention. This is specifically prepared in a manner to facilitate the honorable house to adopt the State Policy

on disability including the economic implication. Hence the details given underneath are what the policy expects to achieve in specified period in a most convergent manner.

The comprehensive disability policy framework of Chhattisgarh (Draft)

The draft policy for Chhattisgarh can also be considered "best practice" within India. The Policy provides more thorough context and strategic direction for disability work, allowing for greater prioritisation in planning and implementation. The Chhattisgarh policy was approved by the state Cabinet in 2007, and will be submitted to the Assembly. Important features are:

- a. It has explicit discussion of different models of disability and frames policy accordingly
- b. It acknowledges India's international obligations in the area of disability policy
- c. It has clear statements of both overall and sectoral policy objectives, indicating the overall policy stance on all major issues
- d. At the next level, it provides guiding principles in aiming reach policy objectives
- e. It acknowledges that 'self-representation' of PWDs in disability policy and practice is critical
- f. It identifies special cross-cutting areas in need of special attention, including mental illness, gender issues, and prevention and early detection of disabilities
- g. It establishes a State Disability Council as an institutional means both of raising the profile of disability issues and improving coordination
- h. It sets specific coverage/performance targets by sector, thus moving towards monitorable indicators of progress
- i. It is explicit on strategies to mobilise public financing for the sector

Goa State Policy for Persons with Disabilities

Goa becomes the first to announce State Disability Policy. It estimates 15,749 persons with disabilities (census 2001), which accounts for only 1.16 per cent of the state. The policy focuses on education, rehabilitation services, and ensuring three per cent reservation in the government as mandated in the Disability Act 1995. The policy recognises disabled people as an important resource for the state and seeks to create an environment to provide them with equal opportunities. It further envisages proactive role of government to encourage self employment and that of in private sector. The policy also speaks of emphasis on creation of barrier-free environment at public buildings and transportation system. It bases

its definitions for PWDs in the PWD Act 1995. The main features of the policy are:

1 Existing Law

After the PWD Act 1995, the State has framed its Rules in the year 1997. Accordingly, the Government of Goa has constituted State Coordination Committee under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare and State Executive Committee under the Chairmanship of the Secretary (Social Welfare). The Secretary (Social Welfare) is also designated the State Commissioner of Disability and both the Collectors as Additional Commissioners of Disabilities for monitoring and implementation of various provisions of the Act. It has also constituted a Local Level Committee under the National Trust Act 1999.

2 State Policy Statement

The State policy recognises that 'Differently abled persons' are an important resource for the state and seeks to create an environment that provides them equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation in society.

3 Focus Areas

The following are the focus areas under the policy:

- a. Prevention and early detection
- b. Education: Through inclusive set up, open learning programmes, incentives for children etc.
- c. Employment for persons with Disabilities: To ensure implementation of 3% reservation in all government departments; encourage employment in private sector through appropriate skills development and awards; support for self employment.
- d. Barrier free environment: To ensure access to Public building/ Places/ transportation system, etc. through various measures.
- e. Disability Certificate: To formulate and notify guidelines time and again to ensure that the PWDs obtain the Certificate without any difficulty in the shortest possible time by adoption of simple, transparent and client friendly procedures.
- f. Social Security for Persons with Disabilities: By various means including disability pension irrespective of the age

under Dayanand Social Security Scheme.

- g. Research
- h. Sports and recreation
- i. Others: Award to the persons who select differently abled as his/ her life partner, reserves the flats constructed by the Goa Housing Board for the Differently abled person, Collection of information every five years, Developing a comprehensive data base of the PWDs, ₹100 p.m. as conveyance allowance to PWD employees, Free transport in State on public Transport , 15 ltrs. of petrol/ diesel or 50% cost to assist the PWDs to use the vehicle to the place of work and rehabilitation centre
- j. Promotion of Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs): Recognises the role for NGOs and seeks active involvement and participation of Local Level Institution/ NGOs including associates of Parents of Differently abled Persons.

4 Plan of Action

The Policy document lists strategies to fulfill the requirement under each focus area.

- a. Prevention and early detection: Through greater coordination between departments both in Government and Non Government Sectors; training and awareness.
- b. Rehabilitation: Through support to GOs/ NGOs programmes
- c. Human Resource Development: To meet the manpower requirements
- d. Education: Education is the most effective vehicle of social and economic development. It will be ensured that every child with disabilities have access to appropriate pre school, primary and secondary school level education by 2010.
- e. Employment: To ensure through various measures including maintaining separate record of PWDs by Employment Exchange, special recruitment drive, opportunities for productive and gainful employment in rural areas
- f. Barrier Free Environments: Public building (functional or recreational), transport amenities, playgrounds, open spaces, etc. will be made accessible through design changes, use of appropriate material in their construction and strict adherence to their maintenance standards by 2008; to ensure adoption of the bye laws and space standards by all the Panchayat and Municipal bodies in the state for all future infrastructure development.
- g. Social Security: The government will provide unemployment allowances/ disability pensions

to the PWDs, which will be review every year by the State coordination Committee.

5 Implementation

The Department of Social Welfare will be the nodal departments to coordinate all matters relating to the implementation of the policy. The State Commissioner shall play key role in implementation of State policy. An inter-department body to coordinate matters relating to implementation of State policy will be formed. Every five years a detailed review will be done on the implementation of the State policy.

Gujarat Policy on Disability (Draft)

The Government of Gujarat has appointed a Task Force for evolving a State Level Policy on disability under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary in 2006. All the concerned Secretaries of different Departments as well as representatives of the leading NGOs have been involved in the task force. As suggested by the Task Force, the following measures may constitute part of the 'State Policy on Disability Development':

1 Certification of Disability

Simplify the existing guidelines on issuing of disability certificates; issuing guidelines for certificates to certain disabilities (i.e. autism, multiple disabilities, low vision, deaf blindness); clarify notification on availing services of private practitioners; promote camps at the block levels.

2 State Coordination Committee

Reconstitute the SCC and SEC (State Executive Committee) and invite the appropriate members; convene meetings of the committees on regular intervals.

3 Prevention of Disability

Activation of the Committee constituted by the Department of Health & Family Welfare; orientation of PHC/CHC Medical Officer, health workers, the traditional birth attendants and others about causes of congenital abnormalities and measures for prevention of disabilities; setting up critical care units at the district level.

4 Social Communication

Launch a state-wide programme on creating awareness on early intervention, immunization, early care and rehabilitation etc.; sensitization of schools children and teachers for identification and reporting of disabilities; extensive use of mass media for such purposes.

5 Education

Admit all the children with disabilities to any form of education including residential, integrated, and inclusive by 2010; ensure inclusion of children with multiple disabilities as well; establish non-formal education and open schooling to prevent dropout of children; include papers on special need children in existing courses on teacher training with special focus on educating girls with disability. The implemented revised Grant-in-aid code and upgrade the facilities available at Special Schools.

6 Teacher Training

Establishing a deemed University with the involvement of NGOs working with persons with disabilities for ensuring development of human resources.

7 Standardisation of Special Medium

Developing a standardised sign language for Gujarat for the deaf and the deaf blind and orient all the teachers of the deaf and deaf blindness in its use. Similarly, initiating a project on developing and using Gujarati Braille contractions.

8 Reservation in Admission

Issuing a universal notification ensuring admission of persons with disabilities to all educational institutes.

9 Employment

Constituting a Committee under the Department of Labour to adapt the list of identified posts for Gujarat; implement the provisions on employment of PWDs; modify roster point system under various departments to implement the provision; have special cell for PWDs under each Employment Exchanges for ensuring employment; constitute schemes for incentives and awards to employers.

10 Vocational Training Centres

Setting up vocational training centre with contemporary trades and professions for all categories of disabilities at district level and recognize them as Industrial Training Institutes.

11 Poverty Allevation Programmes

Appropriate notifications for allocation of 3% of funds under various poverty alleviation schemes

for PWDs.

12 Allotment of Lands

Issued guidelines to the revenue and the District authorities for preferential allotment of land on concessional rates to persons with disabilities, their organisations or non-governmental organisations working for such persons for the purpose of housing, establishment of special institutions or businesses by disabled entrepreneurs.

13 Access

Develop the state capital (Gandhinagar) as a model barrier free town, which includes making public buildings, gardens, buses, pavements, public toilets, traffic signals, road crossings barrier free and accessible.

14 Community Based Rehabilitation

To serve every person with disability in a need based manner at their doorstep.

15 Recognition of Institutions

Constitute a committee to review the guidelines being followed by a competent authority for granting certificates of recognition to institutions for persons with disabilities.

16 Institution of Persons with Severe Disabilities

Constitute a state level institution for persons with severe disabilities on the lines of National Institute of Persons with Severe and Multiple Disabilities.

17 Unemployment Allowance

The Department of Employment & Training needs to review and evolve appropriate guidelines on providing unemployment allowance to educated unemployed persons with disabilities.

18 Insurance Scheme

Adoption of an appropriate scheme for insurance of employees with disabilities.

19 State Level statutory Bodies

On pattern of statutory bodies constituted by the Parliament at the national level, there is a need to constitute the State Level Statutory Bodies as listed below:

- a. State Trust for Persons with Multiple Disabilities, Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Other Newer Disabilities
- b. Gujarat State Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation
- c. Gujarat Department of Disability

Development

d. Gujarat State Mental Health Foundation

20 Task Force

The Task Force should be more inclusive by having representatives from Departments of Labour, Rural Development and Tribal Development as its members before the next meeting. Further, the Task Force should finalize the draft of the policy in consultation with institutions working for the persons with disabilities, parents and persons with disabilities themselves and other stakeholders. After the policy adoption, the Task Force needs to be constituted as a statutory body and named as Gujarat Council on Disability with complete responsibility for the implementation, monitoring and up-gradation of the Policy.

Karnataka Policy on Disability (Draft)

The draft Karnataka policy for the most part mirrors the structure and major provisions of the PWD Act. For the most part, it is a state-specific endorsement of various initiatives for promotion of rights of PWDs. In a number of cases, it repeats the PWD Act entitlements and commitments, and repeats general instructions to frame relevant schemes (e.g. reservation in poverty alleviation programmes; education). In others, the general commitments of the Act are put in a more state-specific context (e.g. health). In still others, there is more specific guidance on circumstances in which PWD should avail commitments under the Act (e.g. exemptions on property tax for PWD). For the most part, however, the draft state policy does not provide much more specific commitments or implementation guidance than the Act itself.

The Policy says that there are around 5-6% population having some kind of disability in Karnataka. It further says that under PWD Act 1995, the state is required to provide for rehabilitation, education, economic opportunities, barrier free environment and other support services which will facilitate the integration of persons with disabilities in the mainstream.

1 Nodal Department

The Women and Child Development Dept. will be the nodal dept. and the office of Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities will coordinate and monitor the programmes and schemes for persons with disabilities and take steps to safeguard the rights of persons with disabilities.

2 Object of The Policy

The policy document enumerates the following

objectives:

- a. To ensure implementation of the legislations related to persons with disabilities
- b. To ensure multi-sectoral coordination amongst concerned agencies for prevention and early detection of disabilities
- c. To promote education as well as enrollment of children with disabilities in mainstream schools and to formulate a comprehensive education scheme as enshrined in the PWD Act 1995
- d. To promote self-employment amongst persons with disabilities with special focus on Government agencies, which create opportunities for disabled entrepreneurs to provide services within the various Government agencies and departments
- e. Effective implementation of various departmental schemes to promote the development of persons with disabilities
- f. To ensure non-discrimination and monitoring of rehabilitation schemes
- g. To ensure qualitative services are provided by the voluntary sector in the field of disabilities

Madhya Pradesh Policy on Comprehensive rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities

Government conducted a survey in 1997 and identified 15 lakh persons with disabilities. To ensure their full participation, protect their rights and provide equal opportunities, the government announced the state disability policy with following focus areas:

1 Human Resource Development and Rehabilitation

Policy: To ensure full participation of PWDs in development, government will do early identification and prevention of disability, education, training, medical and rehabilitation facilities; rehabilitation through community participation; education in inclusive set up; encouraging self help groups.

Strategy: Provision for PWDs in regular schools, opening special schools wherever needed, open schooling, ensure participation in sports, training of regular school teachers, vocational training through voluntary organisations, training to local people in CBR to rehabilitate PWDs in the community, Promoting SHG of PWDs, new institutes for human resource development, research,

scholarship to students, pension to other PWDs, distribution of aids, corrective surgeries, promoting NGOs participation special efforts to create a positive environment for employment of PWDs, establishing special employment exchanges, promoting self employment, special efforts for girls/women.

2 Community Awareness

Policy: Programme for community and family awareness, creating a positive image of PWDs; ensuring participation of local self governments.

Strategy: Promoting inclusion of PWDs in mainstream, promoting private institutions for employment of PWDs, modifying the existing facilities in technical institutions, mass awareness programmes to create awareness about preventive aspect of disability, encouraging community participation, ensuring PWDs participation in local self government, using mass media to create awareness and positive image of PWDs, providing all benefits and concessions given by the central or state government.

3 Facilities

Policy: Removing all kind of barriers from public places to ensure their full participation, strengthening government and non government system to ensure their rights,

Strategy: Facilities and concessions in educational institutions, modification in curricula, provision for assistive devices and necessary modification at work place, provision for prevention programmes like blindness control, immunization etc. on regular basis, training to health workers in disability case management, pension, making all public place barrier free, ensure new construction will have facilities for PWDs, wheel chairs and other facilities at bus station and other public places, multipurpose centre for disabled, promoting products made by disable people organization in government/ public sector, priority in allocation to land for starting industrial unit by disabled individual.

4 Social Security

Policy: Special protection at the time of emergency situation, priority for women and poor, to remove all kind of discrimination, ensure reservation in government jobs.

Strategy: Ensuring reservation for employment in public and government sector for disabled, provision for disabled in housing board/ commercial project schemes and loans on special rates, public transport will be accessible with seat reservation for disabled , provision for making

multi storey housing and commercial buildings accessible, city crossings will be equipped with sound information system and zebra crossing will be engraved for persons with blindness, reservation for disabled in commercial projects by local bodies.

Orissa

Orissa passed state act in September, 2003 in line of the PWD Act 1995 and adapted it as state act.

Tamilnadu Policy for Disability

The document announced by Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department through Policy Note in 2005-2006 by Demand No. 43 has following points:

A Welfare State is responsible for the well-being of all sections of its people. The State's helping hand must reach out to the needy, especially to the under-privileged and the handicapped. A number of innovative programmes of this Government are pre-oriented towards this objective. With a view to give adequate importance to the Welfare of the Disabled, a separate Directorate for Rehabilitation of the Disabled was established by the Government during 1992-93. This Directorate is being managed by a State Special Commissioner for the Disabled, appointed as per the requirements enunciated by the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995.

The State Policy on Persons with Disabilities focuses on the prevention of disabilities and timely assistance to persons with disabilities to lead as normal a life as possible within the family and the community. This comprehensive policy aims at early detection of disabilities and provision of comprehensive services in medical, vocational, economic and social spheres in order to make the disabled self supporting citizens and integral part of the society. The policy envisages a joint responsibility for the Government, Entrepreneurs, Philanthropists, NGOs and the community as a whole.

Based on the above State Policy the following steps will be taken:

- a. To assess the nature and extent of the problem of the disabled including the early detection and immunisation against polio, measles, rubella, mumps, etc besides supply of simple aids and appliances suited to the needs of the

individual in order to improve mobility and physical capacity.

- b. To ensure that every disabled child is given free and compulsory primary education, either special education or integrated (inclusive) education, based upon the level of disability of the individual and also to promote the integration of the handicapped students with normal students at every stage depending upon the capacity/level/need of each handicapped child.
- c. To develop the required skilled manpower by establishing Teacher Training Centers and develop a corps of competent Teachers in Educational Institutions / Training Centers who have developed a deep understanding of the problems of the handicapped.
- d. To promote special supportive facilities like scholarship, free transport, supply of teaching aids, special aids and assistive devices, appointment of Resource Teachers, Hostel facility etc., and to help the disabled to pursue appropriate higher education.
- e. To identify trades suited to each category for the disabled particularly in specific industries and to establish and run training centers for the disabled.
- f. To arrange financial assistance for the handicapped trainees towards purchase of tools, kits, etc. required by them.
- g. To enable banks and other financial institutions to assist liberally for self employment ventures.
- h. To introduce measures for the removal of architectural barriers in all buildings, to provide easy access and indeed all barriers to the successful adjustment of the disabled.
- i. To take suitable measures to enable the disabled persons to participate in cultural and sports events as in the case of normal persons.

Other states are either in process or have not shown any direction in this regard.

Chapter 5

Central Government Schemes for the Disabled

The disability certificate and/or identity card is the basic document that a person with any disability of more than 40 percent requires in order to avail any facilities, benefits or concessions under the available schemes. However, this is not required for gaining admission in a school for formal education.

Facilities/ concessions are available for the disabled under the following programmes.

- 1 Disability certificate and identity card
- 2 Education programmes for children with special needs
- 3 Children's Education Allowance and Scholarships
- 4 Assistance to disabled persons for purchase/fitting of aids and appliances (Adip Scheme)
- 5 Preference in allotment of STD/PCO to handicapped persons
- 6 Custom concessions
- 7 Employment of the handicapped
- 8 National awards for people with disabilities
- 9 Incentives to private sector employers for providing employment to persons with disabilities
- 10 Reservation of jobs and other facilities for disabled persons
- 11 Economic assistance
- 12 Grant-in-aid schemes of the Ministry of Social

- Justice & Empowerment
- 13 Other concession and schemes
 - 14 Concessions for Blind
 - 15 Concessions for Deaf
 - 16 Concessions for Mentally Retarded (MR)
 - 17 Concessions for Orthopedically Handicapped (OH)

The degree of disability should be at least 40% in order to be eligible for any concession/ benefits. All persons with mental retardation are eligible for concessions/benefits. The classification of various concessions being recommended is applicable to the persons with permanent disabilities only.

1 Disability Certificate and Identity Card

A. Disability Certificate

The respective Medical boards constituted at state or district level are the certifying authority to issue disability certificate. The board consists of a chief medical officer/ sub divisional medical officer in the district and another expert in the specified field for example- an ophthalmic surgeon in case of visual handicaps; either an ENT surgeon or an audiologist in case of speech and hearing handicaps, an orthopaedic surgeon or a specialist in physical medicine and rehabilitation in case of locomotor handicaps and a psychiatrist or a clinical psychologist in case of mental handicaps. Few facts about Disability Certificate are as under:

- a. The certificate is issued to persons with disabilities mentioned in the PWD Act 1995. At present, disabilities like Autism and learning disabilities are not covered under this Act.
 - b. The certificate is valid for a period of five years.
 - c. When there are no chances of variation in the degree of disability, a permanent disability certificate is given.
 - d. In order to get a disability certificate a person requires a birth certificate and proof of residence. If a child is born at home, parents can get the birth certificate from their district magistrate.
- Duration of validity: The card has a life long validity when issued to a disabled person above the age of 18 years. For disabled children below 18 years of age, the card is required to be updated once in every five years. No fresh medical examination is necessary in the case of permanent disability.
 - Cost: A nominal amount can be charged from the disabled person at the time of submission of the application form for IC.

The IC will contain information like identity card number, disability code, district code, state code, etc. A pass book will also be issued along with the IC. This pass book is meant to contain the details of various benefits and concessions provided to that person.

B Identity Card

Presently, various ministries/departments of the central government as well as the state and UT level government provide a number of concessions/ facilities/ benefits to the persons with disabilities. These benefits are provided on the basis of certain documents. The procedural requirements are different in each case. Therefore, the persons with disabilities have to do complex paper work which causes a lot of inconvenience and hindrance in availing various benefits. The Government of India has therefore issued guidelines (August 2000) to states/ UTs for issuing of identity card (IC) to the persons with disabilities so as to enable them to easily avail any applicable benefits/ concessions.

- Eligibility: All those who are certified by the appropriate authority to have disability (as per the definitions given in the PWD Act 1995), will be eligible to obtain the identity card. This card will be issued to all eligible persons with disability irrespective of their age.
- Medical Certificate: Medical certificate obtained from the authorised medical board constituted by the State Government/ Defence authority, is a necessary pre-requisite for obtaining the card.
- Application: Person with disability may apply for issue of the IC to the appropriate authority. In case of persons with mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy or multiple disabilities, application can be made by the legal guardian. Ex-servicemen should apply for IC through the Rajya Sainik Board/ Zila Sainik Board or the Army formation HQs on the basis of disability certificate given by competent medical authority in the defence forces. Two passport size photographs would be required at the time of application.

For more details contact

Field : Doctor at Primary Health Centre
 Block : Community Health Centre
 District : District Hospital (Chief Medical Officer)/
 District Welfare Officer
 Centre : Joint Secretary/ National Trust

2. Education Programmes for Children with Special Needs

The community at large is often unaware of the potential of children with special needs. In the popular mind, special needs are usually identified with very low expectations. There are different provisions for education of children with disabilities. Inclusive education supports the idea of having all the children with special needs enrolled in mainstream schools with appropriate modifications as far as possible. After the assessment of their disabilities by a team of specialists (a doctor, a psychologist, and a special educator), the child will be placed in appropriate educational setting. Children with mild and moderate disabilities of any kind may be integrated in regular schools, severe in regular/ special schools after a thorough assessment; drop outs who have problems in availing benefits of normal schools can join open schools. Open and special schools also offer vocational courses for children with disabilities.

A Scheme of Integrated Education for the Disabled Children

The scheme of Integrated Education for the Disabled Children (IEDC) was a centrally sponsored scheme started in 1974 by Ministry of Social Welfare, Government of India and being implemented by the Department of Secondary and Higher Education under the Ministry of Human Resource Development since 1982. The scheme has been discontinued since March 31, '09.

B Inclusive Education for Disabled (IED) Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

Central Government's guidelines issued by the concerned ministry and the SSA. The main focus of SSA is on increasing access, enrolment and retention of all children as well as improving the quality of education. The objective of SSA can only be realized, if Children with Special Needs (CWSN) are also included under the ambit of elementary education. The general guidelines issued by the Ministry of Human Resource Development⁶ (MHRD), Government of India are as follows –

- a. A zero rejection policy – to ensure that every child with special needs, irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided meaningful and quality education
- b. Education to CWSN should be provided in an environment most suited to his/her learning needs – to include all forms of education i.e. open school, special schools, EGS & AIE or even home based education
- c. Flexibility in planning – to make it need based and district centric for effective utilisation of resources
- d. Provision for each CWSN in district plan
 - i. Upto ₹ 1200 per child for integration of CWSN per year
 - ii. District plan for CWSN would be formulated within this norm
 - iii. Encourage involvement of resource institutions

These policy guidelines are in line with the prevailing Acts and constitutional provisions which ensures that

- Every child should get free and compulsory education up till the age of 14 years⁷
- Education to CWSN in an appropriate environment till 18 years⁸
- CWSN need to be taught by a trained teacher⁹
- Create an appropriate system for services and support to severely disabled children¹⁰

C Inclusive Education for the Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS)

Due to expansion of SSA, the increase in

enrolment at the elementary level is expected in the coming years to lead to a surge in the demand for secondary level education. This will include children with disabilities. As SSA supports inclusion of children with special needs at the early childhood education and elementary education level, it is desirable to introduce a scheme for the disabled children at secondary stage. The scheme for IEDSS is therefore envisaged to enable all children and young persons with disabilities to have access to secondary education and to improve their enrolment, retention and achievement in the general education system. Under the scheme every school is proposed to be made disabled-friendly.

- a. Type of Scheme: This is a centrally sponsored scheme under which the Central Government will assist the States/Union Territories and autonomous bodies of stature in the field of education in its implementation on the basis of the criteria laid down. Assistance for all the items covered in the scheme will be on 100 per cent basis but assistance for the programme would be subject to policy guidelines issued and initiatives to be taken by the appropriate government for implementing the educational provisions of the P.W.D. Act.
- b. Aims and Objectives: The Centrally Sponsored IEDSS Scheme aims to:
 - i. Enable all students with disabilities completing eight years of elementary schooling an opportunity to complete four years of secondary schooling (classes IX to XII) in an inclusive and enabling environment
 - ii. Provide educational opportunities and facilities to students with disabilities in the general education system at the secondary level (classes IX to XII).
 - iii. Support the training of general school teachers to meet the needs of children with disabilities at the secondary level.

The objectives of the scheme will be to ensure that:

- i. Every child with disability will be identified at the secondary level and his educational need assessed.
- ii. Every student in need of aids and appliances, assistive devices, will be provided the same

6 Illustrated from 'Responding to Children with Special Needs – A Manual for Planning and Implementation of Inclusive Education in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' published by the Ministry.

7 86th Constitutional Amendment

8 Sections 26-29 of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995

9 Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992

10 National Trust Act, 1999

- iii. All architectural barriers in schools are removed so that students with disability have access to classrooms, laboratories, libraries and toilets in the school.
 - iv. Each student with disability will be supplied learning material as per his/ her requirement
 - v. All general school teachers at the secondary level will be provided basic training to teach students with disabilities within a period of three to five years.
 - vi. Students with disabilities will have access to support services like the appointment of special educators, establishment of resource rooms in every block.
 - vii. Model schools are set up in every state to develop good replicable practices in inclusive education.
- c. Target Group: The scheme will cover all children of age 14+ years passing out of elementary schools and studying in secondary stage in Government, local body and Government-aided schools, with one or more disabilities as defined under the Persons with Disabilities Act (1995) and the National Trust Act (1999) in the age group 14+ to 18+ years (classes IX to XII), namely
- Blindness
 - Low vision
 - Leprosy cured
 - Hearing impairment
 - Locomotor disabilities
 - Mental retardation
 - Mental illness
 - Autism
 - Cerebral palsy

And may eventually cover speech impairment and learning disabilities, etc. Girls with disabilities will receive special focus and efforts would be made under the scheme to help them gain access to secondary schools, as also to information and guidance for developing their potential.

D Components of the Scheme: The Scheme has following components –

- a. It is proposed to provide for educational facilities under this scheme for all children with disabilities that are included in general schools at the secondary and senior secondary level (classes IX to XII).

- b. The Scheme will include assistance for two kinds of components, viz. (I) Student-oriented components, and (II) Other components (e.g. those relating to infrastructure, teacher training, awareness generation, etc.)
- c. For the first group of components, it is proposed to provide assistance to States/ Union Territories / Autonomous bodies at ₹ 3000 per disabled child per annum for specified items, on the pattern of SSA which provides assistance at ₹ 1200 per disabled child per annum for the elementary level. (This rate was fixed in 2001-2002). This amount of ₹ 3000 per disabled child per annum may be spent on the following components:-
 - i. Identification and assessment of children with disabilities. The assessment team may include an interdisciplinary expert team of special educators, clinical psychologists, therapists, doctors and any other professional support based on the students' needs.
 - ii. Provision of aids and appliances to all students with disabilities needing them, if these are not already being provided for through existing schemes like ADIP, State Schemes, voluntary organizations, Rotary clubs etc.
 - iii. Access to learning material ensuring that each disabled student will have access to learning material as per his/ her requirement like Braille textbooks, audiotapes, talking books etc, textbooks in large prints and any other material needed.
 - iv. Provision of facilities like transport facilities, hostel facilities, scholarships, books, uniforms, assistive devices, support staff (readers, amanuensis).
 - v. Stipend for girl students with disabilities - Since girl students with disabilities face discrimination, they, in addition to availing facilities under all schemes specially targeting girls' education, will be given a stipend at ₹ 200 per month at the secondary level to encourage their participation up to senior secondary level.
 - vi. The use of ICT - Access to technology is especially relevant for the disabled as it increases their access to a vast amount of information not otherwise available. Computers provided to students in secondary schools will also be made accessible to those with disabilities. The scheme will provide for the purchase of appropriate technology by way of special software such as screen reading software like JAWS, SAFA, etc. for the visually impaired and speech recognition software for the hearing impaired to develop

computer vocabulary for the hearing impaired and modified hardware like adapted keyboards.

- vii. Development of teaching learning material: The scheme will cover the expenses incurred on organising the mobilisation of such support as certified by the School Principal/ Educational Administrators. Financial assistance under this scheme will be available for purchase/production of instructional materials for the disabled and also for purchase of equipment required therefore. Wherever necessary, the available material will be translated and produced in regional languages. The scheme will also support workshops for adaptation in the curricular content and development of supplementary material, self-learning material for teachers and students at the secondary level of school education.
 - viii. External support from an interdisciplinary team of experts such as educational psychologists, speech and occupational therapists, physiotherapists, mobility instructors and medical experts has to be coordinated at the local level. Support can be made available at the cluster level and needs of children with disabilities in a cluster of schools may be addressed. The expenses incurred on mobilising such support in the form of TA/DA and consultancy fee will be covered under the scheme for children and young persons with disabilities at the secondary school level. Funds may be drawn from the child specific funds of ₹ 3000 per child.
- d. Costs of non-beneficiary-oriented components like teacher training, construction and equipping of resource rooms, creating model schools, research and monitoring, etc. will be covered separately. These components would be as follows:-
- i. Removal of architectural barriers to ensure that students with disabilities have access to each classroom, laboratory, library and toilet in the school. A detailed manual laying out norms and guidelines for accessibility required by different types of disability will be developed at the central level with the help of the Office Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities (CCPD), and the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI). The scheme will support development of the accessible physical environment in existing secondary school buildings.
 - ii. Training of special/ general school teachers: Special teachers to be trained through regular programmes run by the National Institutes/Apex Institutes of RCI or under any other programme of the States. There should be a component of in-service training for resource teachers to equip them with handling of other disability area. All general teachers at the secondary level will be trained in particular strategies like making educationally useful assessments, planning an individualised and need-specific curriculum, teaching styles which include audio-visual aids, appropriate instructional strategies, etc.
 - iii. Orientation of principals, educational administrators: This training will include developing strategies for management of inclusive education. This will include teachers (both special and general), local educational administrators, Principals / Headmasters of Institutions, parents/ guardians of the disabled children.
 - iv. Strengthening of training institutions and assistance to existing organisation/NGOs to develop teacher's training programme in inclusive schooling and for educational interventions for specific disabilities.
 - v. Provision of resource rooms and equipment for the resource rooms in one school per block/urban cluster. Norms in terms of size, accessible features will be developed with the support of relevant agencies at the Central and State level. A suggested list of assistive devices/equipment for the resource room is given in the Appendix-II.
 - vi. Appointment of special educators: Support from special educators will differ at the secondary level from that at the elementary level. Special educators will be appointed in the ratio 1:5. Ideally every school where disabled children are enrolled should have the services of at least one special teacher. If the number of children is less, this teacher could also work for other schools in the cluster.
 - vii. Development of some existing schools as Model Inclusive Schools so as to accelerate the process of education of children and youth with disabilities with initiatives from parents, teachers, community and respective governments. Norms will be developed at the central level with the help

of relevant state and national level agencies, to provide the whole range of support for these schools. Funds for these will be charged towards the research component.

- viii. Administration, Research and Development, and Monitoring and Evaluation. These will form an integral part of the IEDSS Scheme. The State Government/NGOs/ Autonomous bodies will have to formulate proposals for designing and developing new assistive devices, ICT technology, teaching aids, special teaching materials or such other items as are necessary to give a child with disability equal opportunities in education. Every year 5% of the funds available at the Central level will be earmarked for administration, innovative and R&D projects and monitoring and evaluation.
- ix. Environment Building Programmes up to ₹10,000 per programme at local level.

The scheme will provide funds only in cases where there are no other provisions for the items under other schemes operative at State/ Central level.

E Other support: At the secondary level, all children with disabilities included under the general education system may not require adaptations in the teaching learning process and evaluation procedures. However there may be some who would require some adaptations. The States/UTs/Autonomous bodies can take the support of special teachers, SCERTs, DIETs, Special Schools, Resource Centres, Non-Governmental Organizations, State Boards and any other community institutions available at the local level for this purpose.

Adaptations in examination procedures: Some children with disabilities may require some adaptations in the evaluation procedures according to their special needs. The existing evaluation procedures can be reviewed at the State level and modified accordingly. Provision for alternative modes of examination for children and youth with disabilities should be considered and provided by the Boards of Examination. This is being visualized mainly as a process of issuing appropriate orders and notifications by the Boards concerned. Separate budget as such is not planned under the scheme.

F Regulations for Relaxation of Rules: State Governments/UT Administrations/ Autonomous

bodies/ other implementing agencies will make provisions for relaxation of rules relating to admissions, minimum or maximum age limit for admission, promotion, examination procedure so as to facilitate in improving access of children with disabilities to education. At the secondary level, young persons with disabilities beyond 18 years. will be supported for a period up to 4 years to help them complete secondary schooling.

G Implementing Agencies: The Scheme will be implemented by the Education Departments of State Governments/UT Administrations directly. The States/UTs may involve Non Governmental Organisations having experience in the field of education of the disabled in the implementation of the scheme. The Scheme could also be implemented by autonomous organisations of stature having experience in the field of education and / or rehabilitation of the disabled. There will be an inbuilt-flexibility in implementation strategies and practices, depending upon the contextual needs. The authority to interpret or reinterpret the provisions of the scheme will lie with the Secretary, School Education & Literacy, Government of India.

H Monitoring and Evaluation: Appropriate structures will be established at the Central, State, District, and block and city level to ensure obtaining feedback from functionaries at different levels. The implementing agency should set up an administrative cell to implement, monitor and evaluate the programme. The existing administrative cell set up under the IEDC scheme should serve the purpose. In States/UTs where the Administrative Cell has not been set up, the State Education Department will initiate action to set it up. The cell will consist of Deputy Director (in the scale of pay applicable in the State Government), a co-ordinator (who will be a psychologist) in the scale equable to University Lecturers), a stenographer and an LDC in the pay scale applicable to such posts in the State Government/UT Administration. At the national level, a comprehensive monitoring mechanism would be evolved in MHRD with involvement of national apex level Institutes like the NCERT and/or NIEPA and/or reputed voluntary organizations and /or individual experts and /or autonomous bodies.

For more details contact:

For Secondary Classes:

District: District Education Officer
State: Secretary or Director, Secondary & Higher Education
Centre: Joint Secretary (IEDC)
Department of Secondary & Higher Education
Ministry of HRD
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi –110 001

For Primary and Upper Primary Classes:

District: District Education Officer
 State: Secretary or Director, Elementary Education
 Centre: Joint Secretary
 Department of Elementary Education & Literacy
 Ministry of HRD
 Shastri Bhawan
 New Delhi –110 001

4 Special Schools

This is a programme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Children with severe multiple disabilities who have difficulty in coping with regular schools are referred to such special schools. Most of these special schools are located in urban areas and run by voluntary organizations. A majority of them are residential schools, and boarding- lodging and other services are provided free of cost. At present more than 3000 special schools for the disabled children are functioning across the country. Out of them approximately 900 institutions are specialized for the hearing impaired, 400 for the visually impaired, 1000 for the mentally retarded and the remaining 700 are for the children with physical disabilities. 40 per cent disability of any such particular types is a benchmark for identification and certification for admission in these special schools.

For more details contact**State:**

Contact persons in the State see Annexure-II.A
 Voluntary Organizations in the state (See list of NGOs at annexure IV)

Centre:

Joint Secretary (Disabilities)
 Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
 Shastri Bhawan,
 New Delhi-110001

E National Open School (NOS)

The NOS was established as an Autonomous Registered Society in 1989 with the mission to provide education through an open learning system at the school stage as an alternative to the formal system. It is specially suited to the needs of certain categories such as school dropouts, girls, mentally or physically disabled, etc. It has also developed educational materials for teaching children with special needs in their own homes. At present there are 1459 NOS study centres in the country.

It offers courses like the foundation course, notionally equivalent to class VIII level, secondary education and higher secondary courses and vocational courses. The NOS also provides the programme of Open Basic Education for Universal Elementary Education (UEE), which includes programme for the disabled children. It offers Open Basic Education courses through the following:

- a. Open Basic Education (OBE): This project is for out of school children in the age group 6-14 and also for adult learners. It has 3 levels: Preparatory, i.e. (A), Primary i.e. (B) and elementary i.e. (C), which are equivalent to a formal school standard of class III, V and VIII respectively.
- b. Special Accredited Institutions for Education of the Disadvantaged (SAIED): To cater to the needs of the people with physical or mental disabilities the NOS has accredited institutions for education of the disadvantaged. Academic courses like open basic education (OBE), secondary and senior secondary courses and vocational courses are offered either independently or in combination with an academic subject(s) through SAIED.

Special Features of NOS:

- i. It allows total freedom to learn at one's own speed. One gets a period of 5 years and 9 chances to complete the course
- ii. Flexibility in choice of subjects.
- iii. There is no age limitation for admission in NOS programmers.
- iv. For admission, a person is required to submit the following supporting documents:
- v. Attested copy of birth certificate, obtained in one of the following ways:
 - From the Admission Register of the last school attended or
 - Birth certificate from Registrar of Births and Death or
 - From a recognized Hospital or
 - Affidavit from parents countersigned by first class/ sub division magistrate
 - Certificate or Certificate of class V / Matriculation/Higher Secondary pass.
 - Five recent passport size (3cmx2cm) photographs are also required
- vi. Handicapped are exempted from payment of registration and cost of course material.
- vii. Candidates with disabilities are required to produce a certificate from a Government hospital and not from a private nursing home.

For more details Contact:

- a **National Open School**
B-13/B, Kailash Colony
New Delhi –110 048.
OR
- b **Regional Centres**

3 Children's Education Allowance and Scholarships

A Education Allowance

Education allowance to children and reimbursement of the tuition fee for Central Government employees is governed by the Central Civil Services (Education Assistance) Orders, 1988. Under this order, the reimbursement of tuition fee in respect of physically handicapped and mentally retarded children of the Central government employees has been enhanced to ₹ 50 p.m. (from class I to XII) in comparison to the general category where it is only ₹ 20 p.m. The disabled children will, however, get other assistance under this scheme as per rates prescribed for the normal children.

B Scheme Of National Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

To ensure that the students with disabilities who have fair access to higher and technical education, 3% seats in educational institutions are reserved for them. Besides, the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment supports 500 scholarships for students for pursuing their studies at post school level. The object of this scheme is to provide financial assistance to disabled students for pursuing higher and technical education. They will also be supported for acquiring special aids and appliances for studies.

2 Awards

500 awards will be available for pursuing higher and technical education and will be given through institutions in which students will undertake the study. Awards will be given to different categories of disabled students in following number:

Awards Details for Students with Disabilities

Categories	Males	Females
Orthopaedic Disability	58 awards	58 awards
Visual Disability	58 awards	58 awards
Hearing Disability	58 awards	58 awards
Low Vision, Cerebral Palsy and Disabilities other than above	76 awards	76 awards

The extent of financial assistance will vary among courses and will also depend on availability of hostel/residential facility with the institution. The details are given below:

1 Eligibility

- a. Financial assistance will be available to disabled Indian students.
- b. They will need disabilities certificate as per definition under PWD Act 1995 to avail financial assistance under the scheme.
- c. Financial assistance will be given for the study of recognised post matric/ post secondary courses in recognized institutions.
- d. Scholarship will be awarded for one course to one student.
- e. Financial assistance will also be given for purchase of a computer with editing software for blind and deaf graduate and postgraduate students pursuing professional courses and purchase of support access software for cerebral palsied students.
- f. Students with disabilities, who have passed matriculation/secondary or any higher examination from a recognised board/University, will be eligible for the assistance.
- g. Continuation/ renewal of the award for next year will depend on successfully completing the course in the preceding year with minimum 50 percent marks.
- h. Assistance will not be available for courses having duration of less than one year.
- i. A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship/ stipend. If awarded any other scholarship/stipend, the student can exercise his/her option for choosing the scholarship and inform awarding authority about the same.
- j. For availing financial assistance under this scheme monthly family income of the beneficiary should not be more than ₹ 15,000 from all sources. Family income will include income of the parent and in their absence income of the guardian.

Courses of Study and Scholarship Rate

Courses of Study	Rate of Scholarship (₹/month)	
	Hostellers	Day Scholars
PhD/M.Phil and post graduate/graduate level courses in Engineering / Indian and other systems of medicine, Agriculture, Veterinary, IT, Biotechnology, Education, Management, Architecture, Physiotherapy, Music and other professional courses	1000	700
Diploma and certificate level professional courses	700	400

The awardees will also be reimbursed the course fee subject to a ceiling of ₹ 10,000 per year. Besides students living in the hostel/residential facility provided by the institutions, those students will also be considered hostellers who live in an accommodation hired at least by a group of 3 students living together with common mess arrangements. Such students will have to furnish a certificate in this regard countersigned by head of the institution

3 Application for Award

Applications for the awards will be made to Secretary of the National Fund in the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

Application for award of scholarship will be made through head of the institution in which applicant is enrolled for study. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment will issue advertisements every year in the month of May in newspapers and through Doordarshan seeking applications for awards.

4 Application for Renewal/Continuation of Award

Application for renewal/continuation of award will be sent to the National Fund after successful completion of the academic year through the institution in which the scholarship holder is enrolled.

5 List of enclosures (attested copies only):

- Academic records (attested copy of certificates and Mark sheets-metric and above)
- Family Income Certificate/ Proof of annual income, e.g. salary slip, last income tax assessment order,
- Attested copy of Disability certificate
- Course fee receipt (if any) with break up of each item duly paid during the academic session
- Hostel certificate or certificate from the house owner in case of accommodation hired by at least by a group of 3 students living together with common mess arrangements.

Applications for the scholarship may be sent to Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110001. A Student should submit

only one application along with all its relevant documents and recommendations of the Institute concerned. Application for award of scholarship will be countersigned and recommended by the head of the institution in which applicant is enrolled for study. Details and forms can also be obtained from the Ministry's Website www.socialjustice.nic.in or from –

Under Secretary (DD.I),
Room No. 622 "A" wing,
Shastri Bhavan,
New Delhi-1.
Tel: 23386314

4 Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase / Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP Scheme)

India has a very large number of persons with disabilities and many of them belong to low income groups. It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to provide aids/appliances at minimum costs to the disabled persons. The requirement for providing of aids/appliances, which are essential for the social, economic and vocational rehabilitation of the disabled persons, has come into sharp focus, particularly after the enactment of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995 which came into force in 1996. The scheme aims at helping the disabled persons by bringing suitable, durable scientifically manufactured modern, standard aids and appliances within their reach.

A Objective

The main objective of the scheme is to assist needy disabled persons 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.

B Scope

The agencies will be provided with financial assistance for purchase, fabrication and distribution of such aids and appliances.

C Eligibility

- a. Implementing Agencies: The scheme is implemented through different government and non government agencies. A large number of governmental and non-governmental agencies are engaged for the implementation of the scheme. Aids and appliances such as wheelchairs, crutches, calipers, hearing aid, braille slates, etc. are given to different categories of disabled persons. The following agencies would be eligible to implement the scheme on behalf of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment subject to the fulfillment of laid down terms and conditions:-
 - i. Societies registered under the Societies Registration Act
 - ii. Centers run by the companies registered under Companies Act
 - iii. Trusts or any other institutions recognized by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for the purpose.
- b. Beneficiaries: A person with disabilities fulfilling following conditions would be eligible for assistance under ADIP scheme through authorised agencies:
 - i. He/she should be an Indian citizen.
 - ii. It should be certified by a Registered Medical Practitioner that he/she is disabled and fit to use prescribed aid/appliance.
 - iii. Person who is employed/self-employed or getting pensions and whose monthly income from all sources does not exceed ₹ 8,000 per month.
 - iv. In case of dependents, the income of parents/guardians should not exceed ₹ 8,000 per month.
 - v. Person should not have received assistance from the government, local bodies and non-official organisations during the last 3 years for the same purpose. However, for children below 12 years of age this limit would be 1 year.

D Financial Assistance

Aids/ appliances which do not cost less than ₹ 50 and more than ₹ 6,000 are covered under

the scheme. However, for visually, mentally, speech and hearing or multiple disabled, the limit should be ₹ 8,000 during their study period up to XII standard. The limits will apply to individual items of aid and where more than one aid is required, the ceiling will apply separately. The amount of assistance will be as follows:

Total Income per Month (₹)	Amount of Assistance
Up to 5,000	Full cost of aid appliance
5,001 to 8,000	50% of the cost of aid / appliance

Further, traveling cost would be admissible and limited to a bus fare in the ordinary class or railway by second class sleeper subject to a limit of ₹ 250 for the beneficiary irrespective of the number of visits to a medical centre. A certificate from the treating doctor or rehabilitation professional would be needed. Travel expenses subject to the same limit would be admissible for an attendant/escort accompanying the beneficiary. The beneficiary should attend the rehabilitation centre nearest to his/her place of residence, except in the north-eastern region, where he may be allowed the cost of travel outside the region up to the closest facility(ies). Boarding and lodging expenses ₹ 30 per day for a maximum duration of 15 days would be admissible only for those patients whose total income is less than ₹ 5,000 per month.

E Types of Aids / Appliances to be Provided

The following aids and appliances may be allowed for each type of disabled individual. However, any other item as notified from time to time by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for the purpose will also be allowed (see the respective categories for details)

- 1 Locomotor disabled
 - a. All types of prosthetic and orthotic devices.
 - b. Mobility aids like tricycles, wheelchairs, crutches/walking sticks and walking frames/rolators.
 - c. All types of surgical footwear and MCR chappals.
 - d. All types of devices for ADL (activity of daily living)
- 2 Visually disabled
 - a. Learning equipments like arithmetic frames, abacus, geometry kits etc. Gaint braille dots system for slow- learning blind children. Dictaphone and other variable speed recording system. Tape recorder for blind students up to XIIth standard.
 - b. Science learning equipments like talking

balance, talking thermometers, measuring equipments like tape measures, micrometers etc.

- c. Braille writing equipments including brailers, braille shorthand machines and typewriters for blind students after the XIth class. Talking calculators, geography learning equipment like raised maps and globes.
 - d. Communication equipment for the deaf-blind. Braille attachments for telephone for deaf-blind persons.
 - e. Low vision aids including hand-held stand, lighted and unlighted magnifiers, speech synthesizers or braille attachments for computers.
 - f. Special mobility aids for visually disabled people with muscular dystrophy or cerebral palsy like adapted walkers.
- 3 Hearing disabled
- a. Various types of hearing aids.
 - b. Educational kits like tape recorders etc.
 - c. Assistive and alarming devices, including devices for hearing of telephone, TV, doorbell, time alarm etc.
 - d. Communication aids, like portable speech synthesizer etc.
- 4 Mentally disabled
- a. All items allowed for locomotor disabled.
 - b. Tricycle and wheel chair including any modification to suit the individual.
 - c. All types of educational kits required for the mentally disabled.
 - d. Any suitable device as advised by the rehabilitation professional or treating physician.
- 5 Multiple disabilities
Any suitable device as advised by a rehabilitation professional or treating physician.

6 Categories entitled to get Aids and Appliances

Category	Mild	Moderate	Severe / Profound
Locomotor	No (<40%)	Yes (40%>)	Yes
Hearing	No (<40%)	Yes (41-50%)	Yes (51%>)
Visual	Yes (20-40%)	Yes (41-75%)	Yes (76%>)
Mentally retarded	Yes (IQ range: 50-69)	Yes (IQ range: 35-49)	Yes (IQ range: 20-34: severe and <20: profound)

Note:

Figures in parenthesis indicate percentage of impairment/IQ range.

Maintenance cost is borne by the beneficiary

- 7 Aids and appliances can be obtained from the following implementing agencies.
- a. Registered societies/voluntary organisations working in the field of disabilities.
 - b. Registered charitable trusts.
 - c. District rural development agencies, India Red Cross societies and other autonomous bodies headed by district collector/chief executive officer/district development officer of zilla parishad.
 - d. National apex institutes including ALIMCO functioning under administrative control of the ministry of social justice and empowerment/ ministry of health and family welfare.
 - e. State handicapped development corporations.
 - f. Local bodies – zilla parishad, municipalities, district autonomous development councils and panchayats.
 - g. Nehru Yuvak Kendras.

Procedure for Application:

Detailed information may be obtained from the:

Project Director, District Rehabilitation Centre, 4, Vishnu Digamber Marg, New Delhi – 110 002

For more details Contact:

District Centre : **District Welfare Officer**
: **Director (ADIP)**
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi.

5 Preference in Allotment of STD/PCO to Handicapped Persons

Educated unemployed persons are eligible for allotment of STD/PCOs. The educational qualification for the applicants is:

- a. 8th or Middle School Pass for rural areas.
- b. At least Matriculation or High School for urban areas.

6 Custom Concessions

The Central Government exempts goods specified in the table below, when imported into India by a

handicapped or disabled person for his personal use, from the whole of the duty of customs and any additional duty subject to the condition that the importer produces to the Assistant Collector of Customs, at the time of importation, a certificate (from the Civil Surgeon of the District, Medical Officer or the Administrative Medical Officer or the Director of Health Services of the concerned State or a Specialist in the concerned specialty attached to a Government Hospital or a recognized medical college) to the effect that the importer suffers from the particular handicap or disability and that the imported goods in respect of which the exemption is claimed are essential to overcome the said handicap or disability.

An illustrative list of equipments covered under the scheme:

- a. Braille writers and braille writing equipment.
- b. Hand writing equipment, braille frames, slates, writing guides styli, braille erasers and script writing guides.
- c. Canes, electronic aids like the sonic guide.
- d. Optical, environmental sensors.
- e. Arithmetic aids like Taylor frame (arithmetic and algebra types), speaking or Braille calculator.
- f. Geometrical aids like combined graph and mathematical demonstration board, Braille protractors, scales compasses and spar wheels.
- g. Electronic measuring equipment, such as calipers, micrometers, comparators, gauges, block levels, rules rulers and yard sticks.
- h. Drafting drawing aids, tactile displays.
- i. Specially adapted clocks and watches.
- j. Orthopaedic appliances
- k. Wheel chairs.
- l. Artificial electronic larynx and spares thereof.

7 Employment of the Handicapped

Assistance to the disabled persons in getting gainful employment is available either through the special cells in normal employment exchanges or through special employment exchanges for physically handicapped. Up to 100% financial assistance is provided in case of special cells and 80% in case of special employment exchanges of state government and union territory administrations.

8 National Awards for People with Disabilities

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has been giving National Awards since 1969 On the occasion of the World Disabled Day every year (3rd December). Institution of Awards has created awareness amongst the disabled persons both in public and private sector and brought them in the mainstream. The Awards are given in different categories, namely best employer of disabled, outstanding employee, placement officer, best individual, institution, barrier-free environment, creative disabled person and National Technology Awards for people involved in the rehabilitation and welfare of persons with disabilities. The President of India gives away National Awards to:

- a. The Best Employee
- b. The Best Employer
- c. The Best Individual
- d. The Best Institution
- e. The Best Placement Officer

9 Incentives to Private Sector Employers for Providing Employment to Persons with Disabilities

The scheme of giving incentives to employers for providing employment to persons with disabilities in the private sector as approved by the Government would be as under:-

- a. Total Outlay: ₹1800 crore for the 11th Five Year Plan
- b. Sector covered: Private Sector
- c. Jobs to be created: 1 lakh per annum
- d. Salary limit: Employees with disabilities with monthly wage up to ₹ 25000 per month working in the private sector would be covered.
- e. Incentives: Payment by Government of the employer's contribution to the Employees Provident Fund and Employees State Insurance for the first three years. The administrative charges of 1.1% of the wages of the employees covered under the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions (EPF&MP) Act will continue to be paid by the employer.

E Conditions

- a. The scheme will be applicable to the employees with disabilities:-
 - i. Covered under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995 and the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation

- and Multiple disabilities Act 1999.
- ii. In the private sector, all over India, on enrolment of the employees in Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and the Employees State Insurance (ESI), under the Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1952 and Employees State Insurance Act 1948 respectively. In the State of Jammu and Kashmir, the employees would be registered in EPF under the J&K Employee Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provision Act 1961.
 - iii. Appointed on or after 1 - 4 - 2008.
- b. The employers would submit a copy of the disability certificate, issued to the disabled employee by the competent authority under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 and the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Rules, 1996; first time when such benefit under EPF and ESI is claimed.
 - c. The Government will directly provide employer's contribution for the schemes covered under the Employees Provident Fund & Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1952 and the employment State Insurance Act 1948. This will be done in respect of employees for a maximum period of 3 years. The Administrative charges of 1.1% of the wages of the employees covered under the EPF Act will continue to be paid by the respective employers.
 - d. The Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment would make available to the employees provident fund organization and employees State Insurance Corporation lump-sum funds by way of advance. These would be used for the purpose of adjustment of individual clients received from the employers under the scheme. The amount with the organisations would be replenished periodically. Initially, both the organizations would be provided Rs. 500 crores each and considering the requirement, the amount would be subsequently enhanced. The advance amount would be subject to quarterly review by the high level Committee to be set up.

e. To monitor the implementation of the scheme, the High Level Committee co-chaired by the Ministries of Labour and Employment and Social Justice and Empowerment would be constituted. The composition of the Committee will be as follows:

- i. Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment – Chairman
- ii. Secretary, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – Co-Chairman
- iii. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment. Member
- iv. Chief Provident Fund Commr. Of Employees Provident Fund Organization – Member.
- v. Commissioner, Employees State Insurance Corporation – Member
- vi. Joint Secretaries and Financial Advisers, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Labour and Employment - Member
- vii. Joint Secretary level Officer in Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment – Member Secretary.

The Committee would meet periodically, as per requirement, with a minimum sitting of once in a quarter and consider various issues necessary for the smooth functioning of the scheme.

10 Reservation of Jobs and other Facilities for Disabled Persons

A 3% Reservation in Grade 'C' and 'D' Posts

As per the order of government of India, reservation of 3% in jobs have been made in Grade 'C' and 'D' posts for the physically handicapped persons. The categories benefited are given below:

Category of handicapped	% age of reservation
The Blind	1%
The Deaf	1%
The O.H.	1%

For effective implementation of the reservation it has been advised to maintain a roster of vacancies arising in Grade 'C' and 'D' posts on a yearly basis. In this way every 34th vacancy is earmarked for the blind. Similarly, the 67th and 100th vacancy of every successive cycle consisting of 100 vacancies is reserved for a deaf and an OH respectively.

B Definitions of Disabled for the Purpose of Reservation

The definitions used here are taken from PWD Act 1995, which are given below –

1 Blind Person: A blind person is one who suffers from any one of the following conditions:

- a. Total absence of sight
- b. Visual acuity not exceeding 6/60 or 20/200 (snellen) in the better eye with correcting lenses
- c. Limitation of the field of vision subtending an angle of 20 degrees or worse.

2 Deaf Person: A deaf person is one whose sense of hearing is non- functional for ordinary purposes of life. When clinically tested understanding of even amplified speech is severely impaired. Most of such cases included in this category will have a hearing loss of more than 90 decibels in the better ear (profound impairment), or a total loss of hearing in both ears.

3 Orthopaedically Handicapped Person: An orthopaedically handicapped person is one who has a physical defect or deformity which causes an interference with the normal functioning of bones, muscles and/or joints.

C Identification of Jobs

In order to implement these reservations without loss of productivity, some posts are identified disability wise by the office of Chief Commissioner (Persons with Disabilities).

D Posting of Handicapped Candidates

As per the decision of Government of India, disabled persons recruited for regional Grade 'C' and 'D' posts may be given their posting (as far as possible) near their native place in that region subject to the administrative constraints. Physically handicap employees may be given preference in transfer near their native place.

E Relaxation of Ban Order on Recruitment to Vacancies Earmarked for Physically Handicap Persons

As per a government order regarding ban on filling up of non-operational vacant posts, it will not be applicable for reserve vacancies to be filled up by Physically handicap persons.

F Carry Forward of Vacant Posts Under Reserve Category

As per the Government order if a reserve category of person is not available and the nature of vacancy in an office is such, it may be

carried forward for a period of three subsequent years.

G Appointment of Visually Handicap Persons as a Caner in Government Department

As per the decision of Government of India, it has been instructed that recaning of chairs in government offices should be done by blind persons as far as possible. When the volume of work require a full time chair caner then a suitable post may be created in consultation with the finance department. For the purpose of recaning the chairs in government offices, vocational rehabilitation centres and special employment exchange for the Physically Handicap persons may be contacted.

H Instruction to the Appointing Authority(ies) for Intimating Vacancies Reserved for Handicapped

As per the existing instructions of the Government, all the vacancies in Grade 'C' and 'D' posts irrespective of their nature and duration are to be notified to the employment exchange and required to be filled through this agency unless they are filled through UPSC/SSC. It has also been decided that all of the appointees should send their request to Employment Exchange/Special Employment Exchange/nearest Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Physically Handicap for nominating suitably handicapped persons to fulfill specific opportunities.

I Grant of Age Concession to Physically Handicap Persons

As per the government order it has been decided to extend the age concession upwards by 10 years in favour of handicap persons. This applies to posts filled through the SSC and through Employment Exchange in Grade 'C' and 'D' posts.

J Relaxations in Typing Qualification

As per the order, Physically Handicap persons who are otherwise eligible for appointment to posts of LDC but cannot be so appointed due to their inability to satisfy the typing qualifications may be exempted from this requirement.

K Exemption of Examination Fee

As per the order, Physically Handicap persons recruited to Grade 'B' and Grade 'C' posts advertised by the UPSC and SSC will be exempted from the payment of application and examination fee as prescribed by UPSC/SSC.

11 Economic Assistance

A Public Sector Banks

Under the 'Scheme of Public Sector Banks for

Orphanages, Women's Home and Physically Handicapped persons', the benefits of the deferential rate of interest are available to physically handicapped persons.

Eligibility

Physically handicapped persons are eligible to take loans under this scheme, if they satisfy the following conditions:

- Should be pursuing a gainful occupation
- Family income from all sources should not exceed ₹ 7200 p.a. in urban or semi urban areas or ₹ 6400 p.a. in rural areas
- Should not have a land holding exceeding 1 acre if irrigated and 25 acres if not irrigated
- Should not incur liability to two sources of finance at the same time
- Should work largely on their own and with such help as from another family member or a joint partner(s); and should not employ paid employees on a regular basis.

B Subsidy to Disabled Under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY)

This scheme was launched in 1999 with an aim to lift the poor families above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through a mix of bank credit and government subsidy. The list of BPL (below poverty line) households, identified through BPL census, duly approved by the Gram Sabha forms the basis for assistance to families under SGSY. This scheme covers all aspects of self-employment, which include organisation of the rural poor in to self-help groups (SHG), training, planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build up, technology and marketing support. In the case of disabled persons, a SHG may consist of a minimum of 5 persons belonging to the families below poverty line. Three percent quota is earmarked for the disabled persons under the SGSY. The subsidy limit under the scheme is ₹ 7,500 (30% subsidy) for an individual and ₹ 125,000 for a group (50% subsidy). This scheme is being implemented by

the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) along with the involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions, the banks, and the non- government organizations.

C Financial Assistance Available to Persons With Disabilities

The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) has been incorporated by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India on 24th January 1997 under section 25 of the Companies Act 1956 as a company not for profit. It runs several schemes to financially assist the disable persons who are eligible for this purpose.

1 Eligibility

- Any Indian citizen with a 40% or more disability
- Age between 18 and 55 years
- Annual Income below ₹ 60,000 p.a. for urban areas and ₹ 55,000 p.a. for rural areas
- A cooperative society of disabled persons
- A legally constituted association of disabled persons
- A firm promoted by disabled persons
- Each member of society/association/firm applying for loan should fulfill the disability, age and income criteria
- Relevant background of educational / technical / vocational qualification or experience, to ensure an appropriate usage of the assistance

2 NHFDC Schemes

- For setting up small business in service/trading sector: Loan up to ₹ 20.00 lakhs.
- For setting up small industrial unit: Loan up to ₹ 20.00 lakhs.
- For higher studies/professional training to cover tuition fees books, stationery expenses, hostel facilities etc.
- For agricultural activities: Loan up to ₹ 5.00 lakhs.
- For manufacturing /production of assistive devices for disabled persons: Loan up to ₹ 25.00 lakhs.
- For self employment amongst persons with

Promoters contribution for term loan and rate of interest

Project Cost (₹)	NHFDC Share	Ch Agency Share	Promoters' Share	Rate of Interest
Less than 50,000	100%	Nil	Nil	5% pa
Above 50,000 and Less than 100,000	95%	5%	Nil	6% pa
Above 100,000 and Less than 500,000	90%	5%	5%	9% pa
Above 500,000	85%	5%	10%	10% pa

mental retardation, Cerebral Palsy and Autism:
Loan up to ₹ 2.50 lakhs.

Note:

- All loans are to be repaid within 7 years.
- A rebate of 2% on interest for disabled women is given.
- A rebate of 0.5% on interest for timely and full repayment of loan & interest.

How to apply

Applications on a prescribed format should be submitted to the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation, Faridabad, through a channelising agency.

12 Grant-in-aid Schemes of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

A Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Disabled

The scheme was started with a view to provide assistance to voluntary organisations working in the field of handicapped welfare. It is a comprehensive scheme to cover different areas of rehabilitation - physical, psychological, social and economic. Financial support is given up to the extent of 90 per cent of the total project cost (up to 95 per cent for the rural areas), for recurring items like staff salary, maintenance charges, contingencies and non-recurring items like construction of the building, ₹ 5 lakh. Financial assistance is given for such projects as vocational training centers, special schools, counseling centers, hostels, training centers for personnel, placement services, etc.

B Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Rehabilitation of Leprosy-cured Persons

India has a large population of leprosy-affected persons, the figure is estimated to be 4.50 lakh. The scheme is designed to provide financial assistance to NGOs in a phased manner for the rehabilitation of leprosy-cured persons both in rural and urban areas.

Assistance is given up to 90 per cent of the project cost. Programs like awareness generation, early intervention, educational and vocational training, economic rehabilitation, social integration, etc. are undertaken under the scheme.

C Assistance to Organisations for Persons with Cerebral Palsy and Mental Retardation

Under the scheme, assistance is given to NGOs up to the extent of 100 per cent for running training courses for teachers in the area of cerebral palsy and mental retardation. Both recurring and non-recurring items are considered for sanction.

D Establishment and Development of Special Schools

The scheme envisages assistance to the NGOs up to the extent of 90 per cent for establishment and upgradation of special schools in the four major disability areas - orthopedic, hearing and speech, visual and mentally retarded. Priority under the scheme is given for setting up of schools in districts where there is no special school at present. Both recurring and non-recurring expenditure is supported.

13 Other Concession and Schemes

The Government of India has recently announced the following additional concessions for individual or Hindu Undivided families which have a relative who is physically disabled, blind or mentally retarded.

A Standard Deduction

An assessee who is resident in India being an individual or Hindu Undivided Family has during the previous year incurred any expenditure for the medical treatment (including nursing), training and rehabilitation of a person who is a relative of the individual or is a member of the Hindu Undivided Family and is suffering from permanent physical disability including blindness or mental retardation shall be allowed a deduction of ₹ 6,000. His deduction will not be allowed where his total income exceeds ₹ 100,000.

B Tax Deduction

- i. Deduction from the total income of handicapped persons under section 80U of the Income Tax Act has been raised from ₹ 20000 to ₹ 40000.
- ii. A deduction of ₹ 20000 from the taxable income of the parents or guardians of handicapped children has been allowed provided this amount is deposited in any approved scheme of LIC, UTI, etc.

C Professional Tax Exemption

Handicapped persons are also exempted from payment of professional tax. He/she has to submit the disability certificate to the employer for such exemption

D Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY)

It is a centrally sponsored housing scheme for providing dwelling units free of cost to the rural poor living below the poverty line at a unit cost of ₹ 20,000 in plain areas and ₹ 22,000 in the hilly/difficult areas. Three percent of its funds are reserved for the benefit of disabled persons living below the poverty line in rural areas. For further Information Contact: Rural Development Agency at

the District level.

E Poverty Alleviation Programs

Under the poverty alleviation programme the implementing agencies have a mandate to extend assistance to a minimum of 3% persons with disability of the total number of beneficiaries targeted to be covered by them.

F Jawahar Rojgar Yojna (JRY)

With the coming into effect of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of rights and full participation) Act it has been decided to earmark 3% of the JRY funds for the benefits of the persons with disabilities.

J Rural Sanitation Program

It has been decided with the approval of the Minister for Rural Area and Employment that the provision of the Act should be implemented faithfully and with promptitude. In this context, it has been decided that in the rural sanitation programme, there should be 3% reservation for persons with disability in works relating to sanitary latrines for individuals below the poverty line. In the case of works relating to groups, it should be ensured that there is barrier free environment for the disabled. Para 6.2 of the general guidelines for implementation of CRCP provides that up to 72% of the annual funds can be utilised to construct individual sanitary latrines to household below the poverty line. This percentage may be amended to the extent that out of 72% of the annual funds, 3% of the funds should be earmarked for construction of individual sanitary latrines for the disabled persons.

K Sanghas in Rural Areas

There are provisions under IRDE and TRYSEM that 3% reservation of the total coverage of beneficiaries for physical handicapped persons. This Ministry is also taking action to introduce a scheme for organising groups of persons with disabilities living in rural areas into Sangam/Group and providing ₹ 25000 to each group for taking up viable economic activities suitable to them.

A decision has been taken that under DWCRA, separate groups of disabled women should be organized. If necessary, this may be done by relaxing area norms. It is requested that the state Government/Union territory Administration may issue suitable instructions to all District Rural Development agencies under them to identify suitable disabled rural women who are below poverty line and organize them into DWCRA groups of 10-15 persons and provide them financial assistance of ₹ 25000 for each group. There is a possibility that sufficient number of beneficiaries

may not be available in one village. In that case, groups may be allowed to be formed drawing disabled women from various villages within the same Gram Panchayat.

L Science and Technology Development Projects in Mission Mode

With a view to provide suitable and cost-effective aids and appliances through the application of technology and also to improve the mobility, employment opportunities and integration of the disabled in the mainstream, the scheme of Science and Technology (S&T) - Project in Mission Mode was launched in 1988. Science and Technology Projects in Mission Mode represent a new approach aimed at ensuring that emerging inter-disciplinary efforts to have the potential meet large scale societal/national needs, and can fulfil their potential in a time-targeted manner. The emphasis is on an end-to-end approach covering Research and Development as well as technological, financial, administrative and management aspects. These projects concentrate on new scientific inputs, generation of new technologies and guiding these to large-scale use. The objectives of such projects are to coordinate, fund and direct application of technology for development and utilisation of:

- a. suitable and cost effective aids and appliances
- b. emphasis on education and skill development leading to enhancement of opportunities for employment
- c. easier living and integration in society

14 Concessions for Blind

A Communication

1 Postage: Payment of postage, both inland and foreign, for 'Blind Literature' packets is exempted if sent by surface mail. If packets are to be sent by air, then prescribed airmail charges are applicable. The relevant rule from the Post Office Guide is reproduced below -

- a. Exemption from Postal Fees:
 - i. 'Blind Literature' packets are exempted from payment of the following fees besides being exempted from the payment of postage
 - registration fee,
 - fee for acknowledgement and
 - fee for the attested copy of the receipt.
 - ii. Postage free 'Blind Literature' packets will be transmitted by surface route only, and if they are to be sent by air, the airmail charge as prescribed for packets has to be paid.

b. Contents and Conditions of Posting: Papers of any kind, periodicals and books printed in Braille or other special type for the use of blind may be transmitted by post as 'Blind Literature' packets, provided that they are posted in accordance with the below mentioned conditions:

- i. The packets shall consist only of articles specially impressed as described above for the use of the blind, and shall not contain any communication either in writing or printed in ordinary type, except the title and table of contents of the book or periodical and any key to, or instructions for, the use of special type, or any enclosure except a label for the return of the packet.
- ii. The packet shall bear on the outside the inscription 'Literature for the Blind' and the written or printed name and address of the sender.
- iii. The packet shall be posted without a cover, or in a cover open at both ends, which can easily be removed for the purpose of examination.
- iv. No 'Blind Literature' packet may weigh more than 7 kg.
- v. 'Blind Literature' packets are subject to the same limits of dimensions as printed papers.
- vi. Plates bearing the characters of writing, sound records for the use of the blind, and discs, films, tapes and wires on which spoken message for the blind have been recorded, when sent by, or addressed to, an officially recognized institution for the blind, shall also be treated as 'Blind Literature'.

c. Penalty for Breach of Conditions: Should any of the conditions mentioned above be infringed, the packet (unless it is admissible as an ordinary packet) will be charged on delivery with letter or parcel postage, whichever may be less.

Rules 304,305,306 in regard to definition of 'Blind Literature' Conditions and Exemption from Postal Fees in respect of foreign postage are the same as prescribed in rule 129 and 130 in regard to Inland postage. However, the penalty for breach of conditions in respect of foreign postage is specified under 307-penalty for Breach of conditions.

'Blind Literature' packets which contain any note or document having the character of actual and personal correspondence, or which are not made up in such a manner as to admit of easy examination of the contents, or which contain postage stamps, form of pre payment whether obliterated or not or paper representing any value, or which infringe any of the foregoing conditions

will not be forwarded, but will be returned to the sender and will be charged on delivery with letter or parcel postage at the internal postage rate whichever is applicable. If the sender wishes to report the article after complying with the necessary conditions, he may do so. It is permissible in such cases to use the original wrapper, but the use of a fresh wrapper is preferable and is recommended.

2 Telecommunication – Concessional Telephone Connection to Blind: Telephone facilities to blind persons on concessional and priority basis are provided on the following terms:

- a. Rental Rebate – 50% of the normal rental
- b. Advance Rental – 50% of the annual advance rental and bi-monthly rental as applicable to a private subscriber. This facility is available in Non-OYT (Special) category only.

B Travel Concession for the Blind

1 By Rail

As per an order of Ministry of Railways, Government of India, the following concessions are available to the blind persons -

A blind person traveling alone or with an escort is required to produce a disability certificate from a government doctor or a recognised medical practitioner, so as to get the concession (Refer to the table below for details about concessions). The concession certificate may be issued by the Station Master on collection of a filled up form and a copy of the original certificate which is duly attested by a Gazetted Officer, M.P., M.L.A. etc. may need to be produced while collecting the ticket. The blind person is not required to be present at the station for purchase of a ticket (The form of copy of Certificate is at Annexure).

The amount of concession for blind

Class	First	Second	Sleeper	Season Ticket	
				I - Class	II - Class
Concession	75%	75%	75%	50%	50%

The following regulations are also applicable for their travel:

- a. Facility of issue of concessional return ticket will also be available within one month from the date of commencement of outward journey.
- b. All the concessional fares shall be calculated on the basis of the basic railway fare for the journey.
- c. No person/party will be allowed more than one concession at one time.
- d. The holder of a concessional ticket will not be

permitted to change the ticket to a higher class by paying the difference, unless the disabled person has a serious disease such as tuberculosis, cancer or leprosy.

- e. A break-up in the journey shall not be allowed on a concessional ticket which is issued for a specific route. A break in the journey will be allowed only if it is natural event. During a break in the journey, the passenger has to endorse the ticket from the station master containing his initials, date and station code. No refunds are allowed for the unused portion of such tickets.

2 By Air

The Indian Airlines Corporation and Jet Airways allow 50% concessional fare to blind persons on a single one-way journey or single fare for round trip journey on all domestic flights. To avail this facility the visually handicapped person has to produce a certificate from a medical practitioner. Air Hostess/Steward will look after the blind persons not accompanied by escort(s) during flight. The Public Relation Officer or the Traffic Officer In charge at the airport will render necessary assistance to inform such passengers at the airport of their departure and arrival. Escorts have to pay full fare. This concession cannot be combined with any other concessional fare allowed by the Indian Airlines.

B Conveyance Allowance

Blind individuals are granted conveyance allowance at 5% of basic pay subject to a maximum of ₹ 100 p.m. and further subject to the following conditions:

- In the case of a blind employee the allowance will be admissible after a recommendation by the head of ophthalmological department of a Government Civil Hospital.
- The allowance will not be admissible during leave (except casual level), joining time or suspension.

C Award of Dealerships or Agencies by Oil Companies

Persons with total blindness are eligible to apply for a retail outlet or kerosene-LDO dealership. They are however not eligible for LPG distributorship.

15 Concessions For Deaf

A Travel Concession For The Deaf

1 By Rail: As per an order of Ministry of Railways, Government of India, the following concessions are available to deaf persons. A deaf person traveling alone (both afflictions together in the same person) on production of a certificate from a government doctor is eligible for the concession (The form of

copy of Certificate is at Appendix)

The amount of concession for deaf & mute

Class	First	Second	Sleeper	Season Ticket	
				I - Class	II - Class
Concession	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%

The following regulations are also applicable for their travel:

- A deaf person is allowed 50% concession in railway fare both in the first and second class, but it is not allowed for the escort.
- A deaf person is permitted to travel by 2-tier A.C. Sleeper on payment of concessional fare for first class and full surcharge for 2-tier A.C. Sleeper.
- Facility of issue of concessional return ticket will also be available within one month from the date of commencement of outward journey.
- All the concessional fares shall be calculated on the basis of the basic railway fare for the journey.
- No person/party will be allowed more than one concession at one time.
- The holder of a concessional ticket will not be permitted to change the ticket to a higher class by paying the difference, unless the disabled person has a serious disease such as tuberculosis, cancer or leprosy.
- A break-up in the journey shall not be allowed on a concessional ticket which is issued for a specific route. A break in the journey will be allowed only if it is natural event. During a break in the journey, the passenger has to endorse the ticket from the station master containing his initials, date and station code. No refunds are allowed for the unused portion of such tickets.

Procedures to avail Railway Concession: The deaf persons intend to travel by rail at the concessional rate are required to do the following formalities –

- The candidate should obtain the copy of prescribed concession certificate.
- The concession certificate should be filled up by Government Doctor.
- Two photo copies of the concession certificate be submitted to the station master at the time of purchasing tickets.
- The original certificate needs to be kept with the candidate. The same should be produced on demand during purchasing of tickets and journey.

16 Concessions For Mentally Retarded (MR)

A Travel Concession For The Disabled

1 By Rail: As per an order of Ministry of Railways, Government of India, the following concessions are available to MR persons. A mentally retarded person, accompanied by an escort, on production of a certificate in the prescribed form from a government doctor, is eligible to get the concession. Refer to the table below for details about concessions (The form of copy of Certificate is at Appendix)

The amount of concession for mentally retarded

Class	First	Second	Sleeper	Season Ticket	
				I - Class	II - Class
Concession	75%	75%	75%	50%	50%

The following regulations are also applicable for their travel:

- Mentally Retarded person is permitted to travel by 2-tier A.C. Sleeper on payment of concessional fare for first class and full surcharge for 2-tier A.C. Sleeper.
- Facility of issue of concessional return ticket will also be available within one month from the date of commencement of outward journey. MR person should be given preference in allotment of coupe on reservation in first class, if required. Free ticket for one escort is available for every two persons in the same class of carriage whether they hold adult ticket or half ticket.
- All the concessional fares shall be calculated on the basis of the basic railway fare for the journey.
- No person/party will be allowed more than one concession at one time.
- The holder of a concessional ticket will not be permitted to change the ticket to a higher class by paying the difference, unless the disable person has a serious disease such as tuberculosis, cancer or leprosy.
- A break-up in the journey shall not be allowed on a concessional ticket which is issued for a specific route. A break in the journey will be allowed only if it is natural event. During a break in the journey, the passenger has to endorse the ticket from the station master containing his initials, date and station code. No refunds are allowed for the unused portion of such tickets.

17 Concessions For Orthopaedically Handicapped (OH)

A Travel Concession For The Disabled

1 By Rail: As per an order of Ministry of Railways, Government of India, the following concessions are available to the disabled persons. The orthopaedically handicapped person traveling with an escort, on production of a certificate from a Government Doctor to the effect that the person concerned is orthopaedically handicapped and cannot travel without the assistance of an escort, is eligible for getting concession. All categories of Orthopaedically Handicapped persons/patients accompanied by an escort when traveling (for admission or on discharge from a hospital where the OH persons are treated or for consultation with a medical expert) have to produce a certificate from a government doctor/orthopaedic surgeon that the person is a bonafide OH person and requires an escort before being allowed to avail the concession (The form of copy of Certificate is at Appendix)

The amount of concession for orthopaedic handicapped

Class	First	Second	Sleeper	Season Ticket	
				I - Class	II - Class
Concession	75%	75%	75%	50%	50%

The following regulations are also applicable for their travel:

- Facility of issue of concessional return ticket will also be available within one month from the date of commencement of outward journey.
- All the concessional fares shall be calculated on the basis of the basic railway fare for the journey.
- No person/party will be allowed more than one concession at one time.
- The holder of a concessional ticket will not be permitted to change the ticket to a higher class by paying the difference, unless the disable person has a serious disease such as tuberculosis, cancer or leprosy.
- A break-up in the journey shall not be allowed on a concessional ticket which is issued for a specific route. A break in the journey will be allowed only if it is natural event. During a break in the journey, the passenger has to endorse the ticket from the station master containing his initials, date and station code. No refunds are allowed for the unused portion of such tickets.

2 By Air:

In a recent decision the Supreme Court of India (AIR 1999 S.C.512) has held that the government

should give same concession as for the blind to any passenger traveling by Indian Airlines who has 80% locomotor disability. They are allowed to carry a pair of crutches/braces or any other appropriate prosthetic devices free of charge.

B Conveyance Allowance

Individuals who are orthopaedically handicapped (with disability of upper or lower extremities) are to be granted conveyance allowance at 5% of basic pay subject to a maximum of ₹ 100 p.m., and further subject to the following conditions:

- a. An orthopaedically handicapped employee will be eligible for conveyance allowance only if he/she has a minimum of 40% (permanent/partial) disability of either upper or lower limbs or 50% (permanent/partial) disability of both upper and lower limbs together.
- b. Conveyance allowance will be admissible to the orthopaedically handicapped employee(s) on a recommendation by the head of orthopaedic department of a Government Civil Hospital.
- c. Conveyance allowance is also applicable to the central government employees suffering from a spinal deformity (generally known as hunch back disability) and at the same rate as available to other physically handicapped persons.
- d. The allowance will not be admissible during leave (except casual leave), joining time or suspension.

C Award of Dealerships or Agencies by Oil Companies

The Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has reserved 7% of all types of dealership agencies of the public sector oil companies for physically handicapped, government personnel (other than defence personnel; disabled on duty) and the widows of government personnel (other than defence personnel who die in the course of duty). The Oil industry selects its dealers or distributors through an advertisement in 1 English daily and 1 regional daily having maximum circulation in the district in which the dealership or distributorship is to be located. The commonly used categories for such purpose include: Award of retail outlet, 2/3 wheeler outlet, kerosene-LDO Dealerships and LPG distributorships.

- a. Eligibility Criteria for such selection include:
 - i. Indian nationality
 - ii. Age between 21-30 years
 - iii. Matriculation or equivalent educationPhysically handicapped persons should produce a certificate from the civil surgeon/CMO or superintendent of a government hospital that he/she is

orthopaedically handicapped to a minimum of 40% (permanent/ partial) disability of either upper or lower limb or both upper and lower limbs together.

Partially physically handicapped candidates are also eligible.

- b. Income clause:

The candidate's income should not be more than ₹ 50,000 p.a. Income for this purpose would include the income of the candidate, his/her spouse and all of the dependent children put together. In case of a dependent, his/her parent's income would also be taken into consideration.
- c. Application form: Standard formats can be obtained from divisional/regional office of the concerned oil companies.

Chapter 6

State Specific Schemes for People With Disabilities

Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Scholarship

The State Government awards scholarship to disabled persons from Class I to Class VIII. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' in Appendix 'A'.

Assistance for Self Employment

Financial assistance is given for self employment to the disabled persons. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Assistance provided to bonafide handicapped persons in order to improve their mobility

Other Concessions

Financial assistance for medical treatment at mainland is available.

Appendix - A

For Education/ Scholarship

- District Inspector of Schools.
- District Education Officer.
- District Social Welfare Officer.
- Directorate of Education.
- Superintendent, Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped.
- Principal of School.

For Training

- Principal, Industrial Training Institute.
- Superintendent, Vocational Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped.
- Directorate of Employment & Training.
- Director, Directorate of Technical Education and Training.
- Vocational Training Institute specifically meant for the disabled persons.
- Industries Promotion Officer, Block Development Officer of your area.
- Project Officer, District Rural Development Agency of your district.
- Manager (Cottage Industries), District Industries Centre of your district.
- Head of Government Training Institute of your area.

For Employment

- Superintendent, Vocational Rehabilitation Centre.
- Employment Officer of Special Employment Exchange for Physically Handicapped of your state.
- Employment Officer In-charge, Placement Cell of Handicapped, District Employment Exchange of your district.
- Placement Officers of leading voluntary organisations working for employment of disabled persons.
- Refer advertisement of Staff Selection Commission, Union Public Service Commission, Banking Service Recruitment Board, Post & Telegraph Department, State Public Service Commission and Collectorate advertisements in which number of vacancies are being advertised as reserved for disabled persons.
- Director, Directorate of employment.

For Self-employment

- a. Superintendent, Vocational Rehabilitation Centre.
- b. Director, Directorate of Social Welfare.
- c. District Social Welfare Officers.
- d. Project Officer, District Rural Development Agency of your District.
- e. Manager (Cottage Industries), District Industries.
- f. All the Nationalised Banks.
- g. Sub-Divisional Officer, Telephone Division of your area for telephone booth.
- h. Chairman of Municipal Corporations, Municipalities, NACs for allotment of kiosks, selling outlets, license for cart-puller etc.
- i. President - Lions Club, Rotary Club, Y's Men Club and other social clubs/societies.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare Department
Andaman & Nicobar Island
Port Blair - 744 104



Andhra Pradesh

Andhra Pradesh Vikalagula Cooperative Corporation was set up in the year 1981 in the international year of the disabled to look after the welfare of the handicapped. A separate directorate for the welfare of the handicapped came into existence in 1983. These two organisations are working for the betterment of the disabled in the state.

Reservation

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts under the Government, reservation is provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

In Educational Institutions:

- seats are reserved in I.T.I's
- seats are reserved in Government B.Ed. colleges and T.T.C's
- each in 3 regions of the Engineering Colleges of state of A.P.
- in MBBS course

In Fair Price Shop:

Reservation is given to physically handicapped persons in allotment of fair price shop by Civil Supply Department. Priority is given to physically handicapped persons in sanction of ration card.

In Housing Board:

Quota in the houses constructed by the A.P Housing Board is reserved for handicapped persons under hire purchase scheme. The handicapped beneficiaries are allowed to pay the contribution for allotment of houses in installments.

Scholarship / Stipend

The state Government awards scholarship to the disabled students (OH/VH/HH) at the following rate:

Scholarship Awards Rate

Class	Amount (₹ per month)
I to V	35
VI to VIII	50
IX, X and Intermediate	85
Degree Course, PG Course, In plant training	170
Professional Courses	125

In addition, the OH students who are severely disabled, are also eligible for ₹ 50 p.m. and ₹ 25 p.m. towards Conveyance Allowance and Prosthetic/Orthotic Maintenance Allowance respectively. Further, the VH students are also eligible for an amount of ₹ 50, 75 & 100 p.m. towards reader allowance as per the Courses/Classes (as the case may be).

Disability Pension

The State Government has sanctioned disability pension at ₹ 75 p.m.. to disabled irrespective of age

Unemployment Allowance

₹ 50 p.m. is offered to unemployed disabled persons in the age group of 18 to 60 years and to those whose two limbs are deformed and whose annual income is less than ₹ 12,000 p.a.

Conveyance Allowance The State Government have been allowing conveyance allowance to their employees who are totally blind or Orthopaedically Handicapped, at the rate of 10% of basic pay subject to a maximum of ₹ 175. The same concession is also applicable to the employees working in the Public Sector Undertakings, State Electricity Board and Universities.

Bus Concession The disabled persons are entitled to free bus journey in the city and in the suburban buses with escorts. In other buses they get 50% concession.

Economic Assistance for Self Employment

- Loan amount: up to ₹ 3,000 with subsidy is provided to the disabled persons for opening a stall. An advance of ₹ 500 is also provided for the opening a booth and nominal rates are charged afterwards.
- Subsidy on loan: Free grant up to ₹ 3000 with subsidy to an extent of 30% is given. On direct loans the subsidy rate is 50%. When banks come forward to sanction loan, they will be sanctioned subsidy out of this scheme.
- Implementation of 3% reservation: in selection of beneficiaries for self employment in IRDP schemes.
- Loans available to disabled persons: at differential rate of interest from State Financial Corporation and other Financial Institutions.

Concession / Grace Time in Exams Grace time of 30 minutes is given to the blind in all exams up to Secondary Level. They are also exempted from drawing diagrams and location of diagrams, language exemption is available for deaf.

Incentive for marrying a Disabled Person An incentive of ₹ 3000 is offered to normal person for marrying a disabled person.

Exemption in Professional Tax Professional tax exemption is available to completely blind and to crippled persons.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances Free aids and appliances are given to those handicapped persons whose parent's annual income is not more than ₹14,400. 50% concession is given to those disabled person whose parent's annual income is between ₹14,000 to ₹ 30,000.

Reader's Charges to Visually Handicapped Students Visually handicapped students who are appearing privately in the following courses are paid Reader charges at the following rate:
Reader's Charges

Courses	Rates per month	No. of months payable
SSC	30	Actual period of engagement of the reader subject to a maximum of five months
All other	60	Actual period of appointment of the reader subject to maximum of five months for academic courses and seven months for all other courses including entrance examination etc taken by candidate during the year.

Further: Nationalised textbooks are supplied to the disabled students of Pre-Matric classes. Note books and Braille Sheets are supplied to the disabled inmates free of cost

Supply of Books and Instruments to ITI and Polytechnic Students The Polytechnic and I.T.I students are being sanctioned financial assistance towards purchase of essential textbooks and instruments. An amount of ₹ 80 per student is sanctioned to ITI students and from ₹103 to ₹ 549 per annum to Polytechnic students depending upon the course.

Coaching for type-writing and Shorthand Examination and Other Competitive Examinations Sanctioning financial assistance to those disabled persons who undergo coaching for typewriting and shorthand examinations in private institutions recognised by Government under the scheme. The rates of financial assistance are as follows:

Typing	Lower	₹ 18/- per month
	Higher	₹ 30/- per month
Shorthand	Lower	₹ 25/- per month
	Higher	₹ 30/- per month

Supply of Musical Instruments to Professionals	Financial assistance not exceeding ₹ 1,000 is being sanctioned to each disabled student professional towards purchase of musical instruments.
International Day of the Disabled	In accordance with the resolutions made by the U.N., the 3rd day of December is declared as International Day of the disabled and has been celebrated since 1995. The Government releases amounts every year for celebration of the International Day of disabled
Discretionary Grants	Government releasing amounts to the districts in Andhra Pradesh every year towards celebration of birth day of Louis Braille and White Cane Day.
Braille Press	Under this scheme, the Andhra Pradesh Viklangula Co-operative Corporation, Hyderabad prints and supplies the Braille books to school going visually handicapped students from 1st Class to 10th Class.
Language Exemption to Deaf Students up to S.S.C	The Government of Andhra Pradesh has permitted deaf children in schools to study only one language and appear for S.S.C Public examination with only one language through G.O.Ns.No.198, Education (Examinations.1) Department, dt. 18-8-1987. Awarding of first or second division to the deaf candidates who have been exempted from Apprentice Two Languages in S.S.C Public Examinations. The concession provided by the Government to Deaf Children who appear for S.S.C examination with exemption of IInd and IIIrd language papers and appearing to 1st and non-languages papers shall also be awarded 1st, IInd and IIIrd Divisions according to marks secured by the Deaf students in four subjects in the S.S.C public examination through G.O.Rt.No.1161, Edn. Education (Exams) Department, dated: 24-6-1992.
Other Concessions / Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hostel facility: Handicapped students are provided free boarding and lodging facility at the rate of not exceeding ₹ 210 p.m.. Inmates are paid ₹ 100 per annum for clothing. Diet charges of ₹ 240 p.m. is also provided to the adults in Government Homes for physically handicapped. Cosmetic allowance at ₹ 10 p.m. for Boys/Men and ₹ 17 p.m. for Girls/Women is being paid. b. Relaxation of age for admission in ITIs: 10 years of age relaxation is given for the disabled students for admission in ITIs. c. Financial assistance to law graduates: An amount of ₹ 1700 is given to the handicapped law graduates for enrolment in Bar Council. Financial assistance for purchase of books is also given to them. d. Free tape recorder is given to the blind students and cassettes on loan basis duly enrolling the students in sound library as per the guidelines worked out from time to time. e. Readers allowance available for visually handicapped lecturers and teachers on slab basis ranging from ₹ 200 to ₹ 300 p.m. f. Reimbursement of tuition fees to professionals to the extent of ₹ 4,000 p.a. g. Training Centres for Teachers of Visually Handicapped: 22 teachers are being imparted training in one academic year with a view to provide qualified teachers to teach the blind under NIVH. h. Residential Schools: 4 Residential Schools for visually handicapped and another 4 residential schools for hearing handicapped are being run. i. Homes and Hostels: 42 Homes and Hostels for Orthopaedically Handicapped / Visually Handicapped / Hearing Handicapped / Aged Women are being run throughout the state. j. Separate Institution for Partially Deaf Children: A separate institution exclusively for the partially deaf children is being run for providing education up to Class VIII. k. Scholarship to Mentally Retarded Children: An amount of ₹1000 is being sanctioned as scholarship to M.R children admitted into special school meant for them; and whose parents income does not exceed ₹12,000 p.a.. This scheme is limited to children who are not admitted into such special school run by NGOs who are not in receipt of grant-in-aid from Government of India. l. Re-imburement of tuition fee to Pre-Matric and Post-Matric students: Under

the Scheme, an amount of ₹ 25 p.m. is paid to the handicapped students who are studying in the private school recognised by the Government and post matric students (IXth and above) are reimbursed tuition fees at ₹ 500 p.a., whose parents / guardian's annual income does not exceed ₹ 12,000 p.a. m.Scholarship to Research Scholars: An amount of ₹ 400 p.m. as stipend and ₹1,000 p.a. towards contingencies is being sanctioned to research scholars for pursuing M.Phil and Ph.D courses.

Concerned Officer

The Secretary to Government
Women's Development, Child Welfare & Labour Department
Government of Andhra Pradesh Secretariat
Hyderabad



Arunachal Pradesh

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Assistance for Self Employment

Disabled persons get assistance for self-employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Economic assistance by way of ex-gratia relief is provided by the Directorate of Social Welfare for the welfare and rehabilitation and for purchase of aids and appliances.

Other Concessions / Facilities

Medical Expenses: Reimbursement for medical treatment is available to disabled persons whose family income is less than ₹200 p.m. and who is not in receipt of adequate medical reimbursement from any other sources. The amount given for this purpose should not exceed Rs.5,000, including the cost of Prosthetic aids. Journey expense for patient and for escort shall be paid. Director, Government of Health Services shall sanction the amount.

Concerned Officer

For Concession Programme, Economic Assistance, Welfare and Rehabilitation:

Director of Social Welfare

Neharlagur

Itanagar

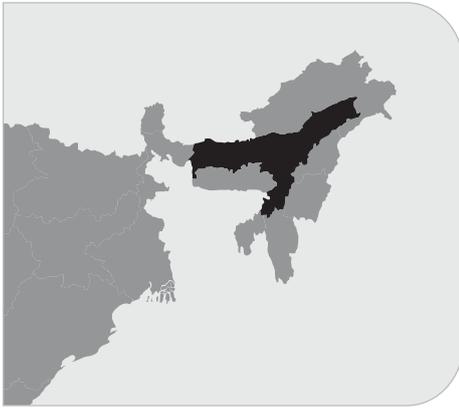
Officer Order No. SCA-140/84(PT)-22388

For Medical Treatment:

Director of Health Services

Neharlagur

Itanagar



Assam

Government of Assam has constituted the 'Assam State Council for Handicapped Welfare' to act as an Advisory Body to the State Government.

Reservation

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts under the Government, reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship to disabled persons from Class I to Class VIII. For further details, please contact Director, Social Welfare Department and refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Disability Pension

Disabled persons, male 65 years and female 60 years and above get ₹100 p.m. as disability pension.

Unemployment Allowances

Disabled persons, who are registered in employment exchange, get unemployment allowance at ₹50 p.m

Assistance for Self Employment

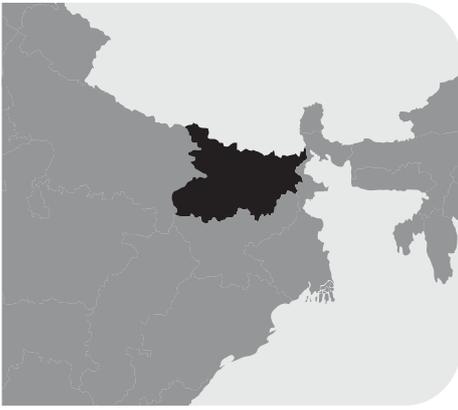
The handicapped persons get assistance for self employment.

Other Concessions / Facilities

- 5% reservation in allotment of fair price shops.
- Reservation of 3% beneficiaries under IRDP Scheme

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare Department
Government of Assam
Dispur



Bihar

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation is provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

*There is no age relaxation in State Government jobs.

- Scholarship / Stipend** The State Government awards scholarship to the Handicapped students from Class I to VIII at ₹ 25 p.m.
- Conveyance Allowance** Disabled employees get conveyance allowance at ₹ 50 p.m..
- Assistance for Self Employment** The handicapped persons get assistance for self employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.
- Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances** The Government of Bihar provides different types of artificial limbs, aids and appliances free of cost to economically weaker disabled to restore their residual capacities and to improve mobility and employability.
- Disability Pension** Disabled persons get disability pension. For details, please contact Director of the Social Welfare Department.
- Other Concessions / Facilities**
- a. Special Schools:
- (i) For Visually Handicapped Persons: Special Schools for visually handicapped boys up to the level of High School standard are being run by the State Government at Patna and Darbhanga. Besides above, special school up to the level of middle (VIII Class) school is also being run at Ranchi and Bhagalpur. The total residential capacity of above schools are 176. The students of these schools besides free education, are also provided with food, clothes, medicines, books and other educational aids etc. free of cost.
 - (ii) For Hearing Impaired Persons: There are 4 Government run special schools for Deaf and Dumb children. These are situated at Patna, Darbhanga, Munger and Dumka. These schools are imparting free and formal education up to the middle standard (VIII class) to 150 students. Like blind schools, students of these schools are also provided free food, clothes, medicines, books etc. The State Government has also accepted the proposal to open two special schools exclusively for girls at Bhagalpur and Ranchi and these schools will have the capacity of 50 students each.
 - (iii) For Integration of Disabled Students With Normal Students: The Department of Human Resource Development, Government of Bihar, has selected 20 schools under integrated education for disabled programmes (IED) where disabled students of different category are inducted with normal school pattern, so that both the group of students could help each other in achieving high standard of education and develop co-operation in national building.
- b. Vocational Training:
- (i) Vocationalisation of Formal Education: All the schools mentioned in a (i) to (iii) above have the facilities of vocational training in different fields like tailoring, carpentry, chair knitting etc.
 - (ii) Vocational Training For Self Employment: There is one vocational training

centre at Patna where a variety of training programmes are available to train handicapped persons in the trade of welding, leather work, carpentry, tailoring etc. This vocational training centre has a capacity of 50. The trainees of this centre are also provided with free instructions, free residential facilities, free food, medicines, educational instruments etc.

- c. Traveling allowance: Government of Bihar has the scheme of granting conveyance allowance to disabled employees as per their salaries. The facilities of concession in State transport buses are also under active consideration of the State Government.
- d. Job opportunities and placement assistance: The Government of Bihar has established one special Employment Exchange at Patna exclusively for physically handicapped persons and has facility of career guidance in different employment exchange. Government of Bihar has also issued instruction to appointing authorities to give preference to disabled persons in recruitment in cadres.

Grant-in-aid to non-government organisation engaged in the welfare of disabled person: Government of Bihar encourages efforts of non-government organisation (NGO) in the field of welfare of disabled persons and support their programmes substantially by granting grant-in-aid from time to time.

Concerned Officer

The Secretary
Welfare Department
Directorate of Social Welfare
Government of Bihar
Patna



Chandigarh

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

In Housing Board: The Chandigarh Housing Board has adopted a policy to reserve 1% of built houses to the Physically Handicapped persons

Scholarship / Stipend

Scholarships are granted from Class I to Class VIII by Education Department and from Class IX onwards by Social Welfare Department. The rates vary from ₹ 50 to ₹170 for Day Scholars and up to ₹ 240 for Hostellers. The blind students are also granted Reader's Allowance.

In addition to the above, the Orthopaedically Handicapped students are also eligible for maintenance of prosthetic/orthotic aids at ₹ 25 p.m. irrespective of the class and course.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Disability pension at ₹100 p.m. is granted to Physically Handicapped persons from the age of 18 years and above who are disabled to the extent of 40% and are residents of Union Territory of Chandigarh and their family income does not exceed ₹150 p.m.

Conveyance Allowance

Conveyance allowance is available to employees of Chandigarh Administration is granted belonging to the categories of Blind or Orthopaedically Handicapped. The rate of conveyance allowance is 5% of the basic pay subject to a maximum of ₹100 p.m.

Bus Concession

The handicapped persons get assistance for self employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

The physically handicapped persons are given financial assistance for purchase of aids and appliances to increase their mobility. The quantum of assistance is:

Income	Assistance
Up to ₹ 200 p.m.	90% of the cost
₹ 201 to ₹ 400 p.m.	75% of the cost
₹ 401 to ₹ 600 p.m.	50% of the cost

Other Concessions / Facilities

- Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped Children: The Rehabilitation Centre for Handicapped Children is being run by the Indian Council for Child Welfare, U.T Branch, Chandigarh. Handicapped children are treated free of cost for one time in this centre. The Centre is having the facilities of Consultant Doctors, Speech Therapists, Prosthetic Technician, Clinical Psychologists, Medical Social Workers and Trained Teachers.
- Government Institute for Mentally Retarded Children, Sector 32: It imparts education to the extent possible as well as provides Vocational Training in certain trades.
- Bhavan Vidyalaya, Jaisukhpal Hathi Sadan, Sector 27, Madhy, Marginal Chandigarh: The institution imparts education to those children whose I.Q. is low and are slow in learning.
- Society for the care of Blind, Sector 26, Chandigarh: This is a residential school being run by a Voluntary Organisation in a spacious building built by

courses for the rehabilitation of blind students.

e. Institution for Deaf and Dumb Children, Sector 11, Chandigarh: A Voluntary Organisation is also running the institution and it imparts primary education, including Speech Therapy and Vocational Courses.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare Department
Union Territory of Chandigarh
Sector-17
Chandigarh



Chhattisgarh

Scholarship / Stipend The State Government awards scholarship to disabled students (OH/VH/HH) at the following rate:

Class	Scholarship amount (₹)
1-5	50
6-8	60
9-12	70

If the disabled person secures more than 40% marks in last exams, then the rate would be –

Type of course	Rate (₹) P.M for day Scholars	Rate (₹) P.M for Hostelites	Reader's Allowance (₹) for V.H
Cl. IX to XII and ITIs	85	140	50
B.A./B.Sc./ B.Com. etc.	125	180	75
M.A./M.Sc./ M.Com./ LL.M/ M.Ed./MDS/ Professional courses	170	240	100

Social Security Pension Scheme

The State Government has sanctioned disability pension ₹ 200 per month for the people with disabilities fulfilling the following criteria –

- Age group between 6-14 years from BPL or orphan
- An orphan in the age group more than 14 years
- Disability should be more than 40%

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Assistance provided to the bonafide handicapped persons in order to improve their mobility. Free aids and appliances of max. ₹ 6,000 are given to those handicapped persons whose parent's or self monthly income falling in the criteria given below –

Income	Assistance
Less than ₹ 5000	Free
₹ 5001 - 8000	50%

Incentive for marrying a Disabled Person

An incentive of ₹ 21,000 is offered at the time of marrying a disabled person provided they fulfill the following criteria –

- Age between 18-45 years
- Family status should be BPL
- Having 40% disability

Assistance for Self Employment

Financial assistance is given for self employment to the disabled persons with the following criteria –

- Annual income of rupees 2 lakh in urban and 1.60 lakh in rural
- Age between 18-60 years
- Return within 10 year period

Amount	Interest Rate
Less than ₹ 50,000	5%
₹ 50,000 - 500,000	6%
> ₹ 500,000	8%

Support to Voluntary Agencies for starting Residential Schools for Disabled

Agencies working in the field of rehabilitation are encouraged to apply for the assistance in the prescribed format. Following support is provided by the government –

Particulars	Nature of support
Administrative Expenses	up to 10% of the budget (max 2000)
Education and Training	up to 10% of the budget (max 1000)
Rent	up to 10% of the budget
Support for students	₹ 600 per month per person
Salary for staff	As per the fixation by the District Magistrate

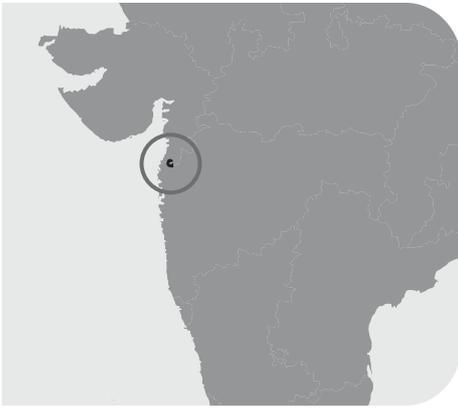
Dindoyal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme

Government arranges camps at district level and issue Identity card and passbook to the certified disabled people after assessment by a team of experts.

Awards / Incentives

Awards in 4 categories are constituted with following details -

Category	Disability	Number	Award
Best employee	Vi / Hi / OH / CP/ MR / MH	One in each category	₹ 5,001 and certificate
Best employer	Vi / Hi / OH / CP/ MR / MH	One in each category	₹. 10,001 and certificate
Best NGO	Vi / Hi / OH / CP/ MR / MH	One in each category	₹. 5,001 and certificate
Best district			One shield and certificate



Dadra and Nagar Haveli

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 5 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs

Scholarship / Stipend

The administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli awards scholarships to the handicapped students at the following rates:

From Class I to Class VIII:

Class I to V	-	₹ 25 p.m.
Class VI to VIII	-	₹ 35 p.m.

From Class IX onwards:

Type of course	Rate p.m. (₹) for day Scholars	Rate p.m. (₹) for Hostelites	Reader's Allowance (₹) for V.H
Cl. IX to XII, Pre-University Course and I.A./I.Sc./ P.T.C./ D.Ed., etc.	85	140	50
B.A./B.Sc./ B.Com. etc.	125	180	75
B.E./B.Tech./MBBS/BDS/LL.B./B.Ed./ Dip. In Professional & Engg. Studies etc./In-Plant Training	170	240	100
M.A./ M.Sc./ M.Com./ LL.M / M.Ed./ MDS etc.	170	240	100

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Disabled persons get ₹ 60 p.m. as disability pension. For details, please contact Director, Social Welfare Department.

Assistance for Self Employment

The disabled persons get assistance for self-employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

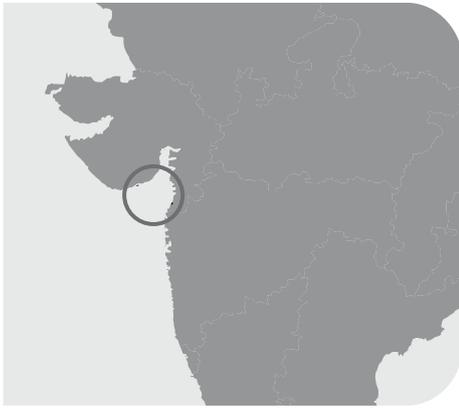
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

The physically handicapped persons are given financial assistance for purchase of aids and appliances as are necessary to increase their mobility. The quantum of assistance is given below:

Income	Assistance
Up to ₹ 200 p.m.	90% of the cost
₹ 201 to ₹ 400 p.m.	75% of the cost
₹ 401 to ₹ 600 p.m.	50% of the cost

Concerned Officer

The Secretary
Social Welfare Department
Dadra & Nagar Haveli U.T
Silvassa - 396 230



Daman and Diu

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs

Scholarship / Stipend The State Government gives scholarship to the disabled students from Class I to Class VIII at the following rate:

Class I to V : ₹ 35 p.m.
Class VI to VIII : ₹ 40 p.m.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension Old age pension is available to the disabled as per the following criteria:

Age : 60 years and above
Per capita income : ₹ 60 p.m.
Family income : ₹ 250 p.m.

Bus Concession Free for disabled students in private and Government buses and 50% concession is provided for escorts of eligible handicapped persons.

Assistance for Self Employment Financial assistance of ₹ 2,500 to ₹ 8,000 is given for the following five economic activities:

- Cycle shop
- Tailoring shop
- Purchase of typewriter
- Cottage industries
- Setting of kiosks

For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances Under this scheme, aids and appliances like hearing aid, artificial limbs shoes, wheel chair, tricycle etc. are provided to the disabled persons through 'Caritas Goa' which is a recognized organisation.

Other Concession The State Government has provided free ferry boat/launcher at various points of Goa.

Concerned Officer The Director
Handicapped Cell
Directorate of Social Welfare
Daman & Diu



Delhi

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

In Educational Institutions:

3% seats in I.T.I.'s are reserved for the physically handicapped persons.

Others:

- 5% reservation in allotment of DDA shops/kiosks
- 1% reservation in DDA plots
- 2% reservation in Municipal shops

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government gives scholarship to the disabled students from Class I to Class VIII at the following rate

Class I to V	: ₹ 50 p.m..
Class VI to VIII	: ₹ 70 p.m.

From Class IX onwards

Type of course	Rate p.m.. (₹) for day Scholars	Rate p.m. (₹) for Hostelites	Reader's Allowance (₹) for V.H
Cl.IX to XII, Pre-university Course and I.A./I.Sc.	125	300	150
B.A./B.Sc./ B.Com. etc.	200	400	200
B.E./B.Tech./ MBBS/BDS/LLB/ B.Ed./Dip.in Professional Engg. Studies etc./In-Plant Training.	250	500	250
M.A. / M.Sc. / M.Com. / LL.M. / M.Ed. / MDS etc	300	500	250

In addition to the Scholarship, the O.H. students are also eligible for maintenance of prosthetic/orthotic aids at ₹ 25 p.m. and the transport allowance at ₹ 50 p.m., irrespective of class and course subject to conditions under clause 5 of the rules.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Disabled persons whose age is above 55 years, get disability pension at ₹ 200 p.m.

Unemployment Allowance

Disabled persons registered in employment exchange get ₹ 50 p.m. as unemployment allowance.

Conveyance Allowance

Disabled employees get conveyance allowance at 5% of their basic pay, maximum up to ₹100 p.m

Bus Concession

Free for blind and 50% for escorts. Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) has been issuing free travelling passes to physically handicapped persons

Assistance for Self Employment

Disabled persons get assistance for self-employment. For details, please contact the officials as per the list given at Appendix-'A'.

Economic Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Disabled persons get ₹1000 as one time economic assistance b. Leprosy patient get ₹ 400 p.m. c. T.B. patients get ₹100 p.m. d. Children of widow get ₹ 250 to ₹ 400 p.m.. for education material etc. 								
Hostel Facility	Hostel facility for college going blind boys at Sewa Kutir is available. Free boarding, lodging, medical care, scholarship, training, library facilities, tape recorder etc. are available.								
Exemption in Road Tax	Owner of motorised vehicle get exemption from paying road tax.								
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	The Physically Handicapped persons are given financial assistance for purchase of aids and appliances as are necessary to increase their mobility. The quantum of assistance is as given below:								
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Income</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Assistance</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Up to ₹ 200 p.m..</td> <td>90% of the cost</td> </tr> <tr> <td>₹ 201 to ₹ 400 p.m.</td> <td>75% of the cost</td> </tr> <tr> <td>₹ 401 to ₹ 600 p.m.</td> <td>50% of the cost</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Income	Assistance	Up to ₹ 200 p.m..	90% of the cost	₹ 201 to ₹ 400 p.m.	75% of the cost	₹ 401 to ₹ 600 p.m.	50% of the cost
Income	Assistance								
Up to ₹ 200 p.m..	90% of the cost								
₹ 201 to ₹ 400 p.m.	75% of the cost								
₹ 401 to ₹ 600 p.m.	50% of the cost								
Other Concessions / Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Grant-in-aid to Universities for construction of hostel for handicapped. b. Grant-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations for residential homes. ₹150 per month per child for maintenance. 								
Concerned Officer	The Deputy Director Department of Social Welfare Government of N.C.T of Delhi 1, Canning Lane Kasturba Gandhi Marg New Delhi – 1								



Goa

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

Scholarship / Stipend

Stipend:

The State Government gives stipend to the disabled students from Class I to Class VIII at the following rates. The said scheme has been revised during the year 1996-97. The revised monthly rates are as follows:

Class	Present rate (₹ per month)	Revised rate (₹ per month)
I to V	35	55
VI to VIII	40	60
IX to XII	60	90

Scholarship:

The State Government gives scholarship to the disabled persons from Standard IX onwards at the following rates. The said scheme has been revised during the year 1996-97:

Class	Present monthly rate (₹)	Revised monthly rate (₹)
IX to XII equivalent pre-university course	85	130
B.A./B.Sc./ B.Com. etc.	125	185
B.E. / B.Tech. / MBBS / LLB/ B.Ed.	170	255
Diploma in Professional Engg. Studies etc./In-Plant Training. / M.A. / M.Sc. / M.Com. / LL.M. / M.Ed. etc	170	255

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Old age pension at ₹100 p.m. is given to the disabled as per the following criteria:

Age	60 years & above
Per Capita Income	₹ 60 p.m.
Family Income	₹ 500 p.m.

Unemployment Allowance

Disabled persons who are registered in employment exchange for more than 2 years get unemployment allowance at ₹100 to ₹ 500 p.m. as per their qualification. The income limit for eligibility is ₹ 25,000 p.a. The scheme has been approved by the Government and is likely to be implemented from the next financial year.

Conveyance Allowance

Disabled Government employees get conveyance allowance at 5% of the basic or ₹ 100 p.m., whichever is less.

Bus Concession

Free for disabled students in private and Government buses and 50% concession for escorts. 50% concession is available to other handicapped persons, other than students (Director, Social Welfare Department, Goa issue photo identity card to the handicapped for availing this facility).

Assistance for Self Employment

Under this scheme, financial assistance from ₹ 5,000 to ₹ 15,000 is given to the disabled for carrying out the following activities:

- a. Cycle shop/Scooter shop: An amount of ₹ 5,000 is provided for cycle shop and ₹ 10,000 for Scooter repair shop.
- b. Tailoring shop: An amount of ₹ 5,000 is provided for purchase of sewing machine and ₹ 10,000 for tailoring shop.
- c. Purchase of type writer: An amount of ₹ 10000 is provided for purchase of typewriter.
- d. Cottage industries: An amount of ₹ 15,000 is given under this unit.
- e. Setting of kiosks: An amount of ₹ 15,000 is given under this unit.
- f. Barber's shop/Beauty Saloon: An amount of ₹ 15,000 is provided under this unit.
- g. Establishment of Pay Phone: An amount of ₹ 15,000 is provided under this unit.
- h. Undertaking Skilled Work/Trades: An amount of ₹15,000 is given under this unit. Out of which 25% subsidy and 75% loan to be recovered in 10 years

Incentive for marrying a Handicapped Person	A new scheme has been introduced from the year 1995-96. The objective of the scheme is to encourage normal persons to accept a handicapped person as a life partner. The quantum of assistance is ₹ 15,000.
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	Under this scheme aids and appliances like hearing aids, artificial limbs shoes, wheel chairs, tricycle etc. are provided to the disabled persons by the Central Government as the scheme is Centrally Sponsored and the same is being implemented through the Organisation "Caritas Goa" which is recognised by the Ministry of Welfare, Government of India for this purpose.
Grant of Assistance to an Institution for Projects Concerning Detection, Intervention and Prevention of Disabilities and Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities	This scheme will be launched during 1997-98. Under the scheme the grant of assistance will be provided, the amount of which will not be less than ₹ 20,000 and more than ₹ 2,00,000.
Financial Assistance to the Person with Severe Disability	Under this scheme, a person with severe disability is granted financial assistance of ₹ 20,000 to be deposited in State Bank of India in the name of Director of Social Welfare and Beneficiary. The beneficiary will get quarterly interest for 10 years. After completion of 10 years the amount of ₹ 20,000 is transferred to the beneficiary permanently. Eligibility for scheme benefit is income limit of ₹ 25,000 p.a. and 100% disability.
Other Concessions / Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Free Ferry travel for handicapped students where as 50% concession to other handicapped persons. b. Sales tax exemption on all equipment (up to ₹ 30,000) which are required for self employment or for the use towards disability of the handicapped. c. Disabled persons having 40% and above disability are issued free identity cards.
Concerned Officer	The Director of Social Welfare Directorate of Social Welfare 18th June Road, Panaji Goa - 403 001



Gujarat

Reservation Government Jobs: 4% of Government jobs of class III and IV posts are reserved for the physically handicapped persons.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in the Government jobs.

In Educational Institutions: 4% seats are reserved in

In Housing Board: 3% quota is reserved for all categories of handicapped in the houses constructed by Gujarat Housing Board

Scholarship / Stipend	Disabled students of class I to VIII, whose family income is less than ₹ 10,000 p.a. are given ₹ 500 p.a. as scholarship.
Disability Pension / Social Security Pension	Disabled persons get ₹ 200 p.m. as disability pension as per the following criteria: Age - more than 45 years Family income - less than ₹ 4500 Individual income - less than ₹ 2400 Disability - more than 75%
Conveyance Allowance	Physically handicapped employees get conveyance allowance at 10% of their basic pay, limited to ₹ 100 pm.
Bus Concession Rail Concession	Gujarat State Transport Corporation has given 100% concession to the blind and their escorts in state buses. Other categories of disabled are also provided 100% concession and 50% concession to their escorts.
Assistance for Self Employment	Financial assistance up to ₹ 1500 are provided to the disabled to purchase vocation equipment such as - sewing machine, ambar charkha, musical instrument etc. The cases of physically handicapped are recommended to nationalised bank for taking loan for self employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.
Awards / Sports / Seminars	Two types of awards one for the best institution and other for the best individual are given by the State Government every year. The details of which are as follows: a. Institution Award: First and second winner of the institution award are awarded ₹ 25,000 and a certificate. b. Individual Award: In this award, first and second winner are awarded ₹ 10,000 and a certificate
Exemption in Professional Tax	Physically handicapped person has been exempted from paying professional tax by the State Government.
Assistance for Purchase of Aids and Appliances	The State Government has implemented the scheme of financial assistance for purchase of rehabilitation aids and vocational equipment such as tricycles, hearing aids, sewing machine, amber charkha, musical instrument etc. The age limit is 5 to 50 yrs. and family income limit is less then ₹ 10,000 p.a.. Financial assistance up to ₹ 1,500 is provided under this scheme
Concerned Officer	a. Teachers training programme for Blind, Deaf, Dumb and Mentally Retarded are being conducted. During training period they get ₹ 75 p.m. b. Government enacted a legislation reserving 1% posts for disabled person in factories employing more than 200 workers. c. The Ahmedabad Meal Owner's Association has made an agreement with textile labour association, Ahmedabad for appointing at least 3 blind workers

in each Textile Mill.

Concerned Officer

The Secretary
Social Welfare Department
Block No.5, 8th/9th Floor
New Sachival Complex
Gandhinagar - 382 010



Haryana

Reservation In government Jobs: 3% of jobs are reserved for physically handicapped persons in the State Government Departments for direct recruitment in all the categories i.e. Class-I, Class-II, Grade 'C' and 'D' posts. 1% post is reserved for each category of Visually Handicapped, Hearing Handicapped and Orthopaedically Handicapped persons.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

In Housing board: Handicapped persons get priority in allotment of Houses and there is one and a half percent (1.5%) reservation for them.

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship to the handicapped students at the following rates:

a. Rates of Scholarship from Class I to Class VIII

Nature of Handicap	Class	Amount (₹)
Deaf and Dumb	I - IV	100
	V - VIII	120
Orthopaedically handicapped	I - IV	100
	V - VIII	120
Visually handicapped	I - IV	100
	V - VIII	150
Mentally handicapped	I - VIII	100

b. Rates of Scholarship from Class IX onwards

Type of course	Rate p.m. (₹) for day Scholars	Rate P.M (₹) for Hostelites	Reader's Allowance (₹) for V.H
Class IX to XII, Pre-University Course	125	150	50
B.A./B.Sc./ B.Com. etc.	200	225	75
B.E., B.Tech, L.L.B., B.E.d. Diploma in Professional & Engg. Studies etc.	250	300	100
M.A./ M.Sc./ M.Com./ LL.M / M.Ed etc	300	400	100

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Disabled persons of age group of 18 to 60 years and having disability of 70% and above and whose family income is less than ₹ 10,000 p.m. get disability pension at ₹ 100 p.m

Unemployment Allowance

Disabled persons who have registered in employment exchange, get unemployment allowance at the following rates:

Qualification	Allowance (₹ per month)
Matric/Middle pass Diploma Holder	150
Graduate/Matric Pass Diploma Holder	200
Post Graduate/Graduate Diploma Holder	250

Conveyance Allowance

Physically handicapped employees get conveyance allowance at 8% of their basic pay subject to a maximum of ₹ 150 p.m.

Bus Concession

The State Government gives free bus pass to all types of blind and other disabled persons having 100% disability.

Assistance for Self Employment

Haryana Financial Corporation gives loan to all types of handicapped for starting self-employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Exemption in Road Tax	All types of handicapped persons are exempted from paying road tax.
Awards / Sports / Seminars	State Government gives awards to the best handicapped employees and the best self employed disabled for their encouragement.
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	The crippled and orthopaedically handicapped persons get artificial limbs and wheel chair by the State Government whose case is recommended by a medical specialist or Chief Medical Officer. The State Government is providing aids and appliances free of charge through the Saket Hospital, Chandi Mandir and also provides free transport facility throughout the State for visiting the hospital from their residence and back.
Other Concessions / Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Welfare activities: Deaf and dumb person get vocational training during which they get free rationing and free lodging/boarding and medical facilities. b. Leprosy welfare activities: Free rationing at ₹ 250 p.m. Pocket money - ₹ 10, Electricity payment - ₹ 10, Free medicine, Rehabilitation services and Free residential accommodation. c. Retainership Allowance to the Blind Caners working in ICDS Projects: Retainership allowance at ₹ 1000 p.m. is given to 100 blind caners working in the ICDS projects in the State. d. Concession for retaining Government quarter after the retirement: Blind employees can retain Government quarter up to 6 months after the retirement. e. Reservation in allotment of Government quarter: Blind employees get priority in allotment of Government quarter. f. Facility to blind students for Higher Education: Graduate students get tape recorder, cassettes etc. for their education. g. Hostel expenses: University blind students get ₹ 160 p.m. as reimbursement of food expenses. h. Allotment of extra time in Board/University examinations: Those disabled students who use his/her mouth or leg for writing in board/university examination get one hour extra time. i. Free tape recorder and cassette to blind students at graduate and post-graduate level.
Concerned Officer	The Director Social Defense & Security Haryana Chandigarh



Himachal Pradesh

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 5 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

One out of 15 posts are reserved in Public Sector Undertaking's (PSU's) and Board /Corporations.

In Educational institutions: 5% seats in I.T.Is are reserved for disabled.

In Shops/stalls: 20% stalls of Municipal Corporation are reserved for P.H person

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship to handicapped students from Class I to VIII. For details please contact the Director of the Social Welfare Department

Maintenance Allowance / Scholarship (through Institutions / NGOs)

An amount of ₹ 60 p.m. is given to leprosy cured person as maintenance allowance through NGO's.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Disability pension of ₹ 100 p.m. for those whose individual income is less than ₹ 2,000 p.m. There is no age limit.

Unemployment Allowance

Disabled persons registered in employment exchange, get unemployment allowance. For details please contact the Director of the Social Welfare Department.

Bus Concession

Disabled persons get free bus travel facility

Assistance for Self Employment

Assistance up to ₹ 2,500 is given for self employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Incentive for Marrying a Disabled Person

The State Government gives ₹ 5,000 as marriage incentive to normal person marrying a disabled person.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Full reimbursement of aids and appliances whose monthly income is less than ₹ 1,200 is made while 50% discount is given to those whose income is between ₹ 1,201 to ₹ 2,500 p.m. Maximum subsidy is ₹ 5,000 per beneficiary.

Other Concessions / Facilities

- Special cell in employment exchange for disabled
- ₹ 120 p.m. for leprosy cured person whose individual income is less than ₹ 2,000 p.m.
- Vocational training: Free training and accommodation is provided to the disabled.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social & Women's Welfare
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Shimla



Jammu and Kashmir

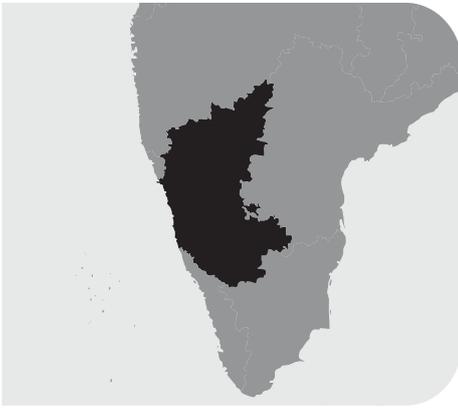
Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

- Scholarship / Stipend** Scholarship is given to the school going disabled children at pre-metric level.
- Financial Assistance** Disabled persons get monthly financial assistance at ₹ 150 p.m.
- Conveyance Allowance** Handicapped Government employees get conveyance allowance.
- Bus Concession** Travel concession in buses and matador is under process and being implemented.
- Assistance for Self Employment** Handicapped persons get assistance for self employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.
- Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances** Disabled persons get Artificial Limbs and Appliances including Hearing Aid under Prosthetic Aid scheme. There is a Government Artificial Limb Centre functioning in J & K State under the Health and Medical Education at Barazulla, Srinagar.
- Other Concessions / Facilities** Free medical facility: Free medical facilities are being given to the inmates of the Home for the Handicapped. For further detail please contact Director, Social Welfare Department.
- a. Organisations working for the welfare of physically handicapped persons are as follows:
- JRC Home for Handicapped, Udampur, Jammu
 - Home for Aged and Infirm, Kathua
 - Child and Infirm Welfare Foundation, Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu
 - Kusht Niwaran Society, Amphalla, Jammu
 - Society for Human Welfare and Education, Solina, Srinagar
 - Home for Disabled, Phulwama
- b. Facilities of boarding/lodging and education for deaf and dumb, orthopaedically handicapped students are available through voluntary organisations.
- c. Facilities of boarding/lodging and education etc. for blind in Residential Institutions are available.
- d. Reservation for admission in professional courses is available for disabled persons.

Concerned Officer The Director
Department of Social Welfare
Government of Jammu & Kashmir
Secretariat Building
Srinagar - 190 001



Karnataka

Reservation In government Jobs: 3% of jobs are reserved for physically handicapped persons in the State Government Departments for direct recruitment in all the categories i.e. Class-I, Class-II, Grade 'C' and 'D' posts. 1% post is reserved for each category of Visually Handicapped, Hearing Handicapped and Orthopaedically Handicapped persons.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

In Housing board: Handicapped persons get priority in allotment of Houses and there is one and a half percent (1.5%) reservation for them.

Scholarship / Stipend

Scholarship is given to disabled students studying from 1st. Standard to University level as per the following rate (Rupees per month):

Type of course / Class	Rate p.m. for day Scholars	Rate p.m. for Hostelites	Reader's Allowance for V.H
Class I to V	25		25
Class VI to VIII	35		25
Class IX to XII, Pre-University Course	85	140	50
BA / BSc / BCom etc.	125	180	75
BE / BTech / MBBS / BDS / LLB / BEd / Dip in Professional & Engg. Studies etc. / In-Plant Training	170	240	100
MA / MSc / MCom / LLM / MEd / MD etc.	170	240	100

The income of the parents should not exceed ₹ 10,000 for granting Scholarship for 1st Standard to VIIIth Standard and ₹ 24,000 from IXth Standard onwards. Besides, Orthopaedically handicapped students get maintenance allowance for Prosthetic and Orthotic aids at ₹ 25 p.m. Transport allowance is also given to the OH students at the following rate (Rupees per month):

Up to VIII standard : ₹ 15
From IX standard : ₹ 50

Maintenance Allowance

Through Taluk Tahasildars, an amount of ₹. 75 p.m. is given to the disabled person whose income is less than ₹ 6000 p.a.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Disabled persons whose family income is less than ₹ 6,000 per annum are entitled for maintenance of ₹ 75 p.m. In the budget speech of 1997-98 this amount has been enhanced to ₹ 100 p.m.

Conveyance Allowance

Disabled Government employees get conveyance allowance to the extent of 6% of their basic subject to the maximum of ₹ 100 p.m.

Bus Concession

Free travel facility is provided to blind persons in Government buses.

Seed Money Scheme for Disabled Entrepreneurs

The disabled entrepreneurs can get a loan up to ₹ 50,000 from Karnataka State Finance Corporation for which a subsidy of 25% subject to maximum of ₹ 6,250 is given.

Assistance for Self Employment to Disabled Persons (ADHARA)

This scheme aims at the economic rehabilitation of disabled persons one petty shop worth ₹ 5,000 and a working loan of ₹ 5,000 is given to the disabled persons through the D.C.s of the district.

Awards / Sports / Seminars

- a. State Award: The Government of Karnataka has instituted a State Award for the best work done for the cause of disabled, for one individual and institution every year. These awards are given on 3rd December on the World Day of Disabled.
- b. Incentive/Award to Disabled Students: Incentive/Award is given to the disabled students who have secured more than 60% marks in public exams like SSLC, PUC, Degree etc. The details of the incentives are as follows:

SSLC	₹ 500
PUC	₹ 700
Degree Course	₹ 1000

Exemption in Professional Tax

Disabled employees are exempted from payment of professional tax.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Under this scheme aids and appliances like tricycles, hearing aids, braille watches, etc. are supplied to the disabled persons. In the case of disabled persons whose family income is less than ₹ 8,000 the entire cost of aids is given and in cases where the family income is between ₹ .8,000 to ₹12,000 only 50% of the cost of aids and appliances is given.

Training, Rehabilitation Schemes, Social Security Schemes and Public Awareness Schemes

Training:

- a. Training-cum-Production Centre: This scheme is a step forward in providing self employment to the disabled. This is an institutional programme for training-cum-production. The selected NGOs will get financial support for three years towards training and setting up a production unit. The person with disability can take up any feasible production activity.
- b. Vocational Rehabilitation Centre: The Vocational Rehabilitation Centre of Government of India provides Vocational Training to disabled persons. This department also gives grants to Vocational Training Centres at Mysore, Bidar, Bijapur and Bangalore.
- c. Job Training to Disabled Youth: With a view to provide gainful employment to disabled youth, it is proposed to give training to disabled youth in trades like Pumpset Repairing, Motor Winding, Garment Manufacturing etc., through institutions like Rural Development and Self Employment Training Institute (RUDSETI).
- d. Industrial Training Centre, Mysore: This centre is run by a Voluntary Organisation receiving 100% grants from the State Government. This Centre imparts Vocational Training to visually impaired persons.
- e. Training of Resource Teacher for Integrated Education: Under this scheme training in Integrated Education is given to teachers and staff of normal and special schools.

Rehabilitation Schemes:

- a. District Rehabilitation Centre, Mysore: The DRC is a Government of India Scheme which undertakes identification of disabilities, medical intervention and rehabilitation measures in Mysore district.
- b. Prevention, Early Detection and Intervention Programme: This scheme undertakes prevention of disability measures, early detection and intervention programmes to minimise the distressing effects of disability. The scheme is implemented through NGOs.

Social Security Schemes:

- a. Social Service Complex, Bangalore: This institution provides protection/care and shelter with food and health care to the aged/infirm and disabled persons who are destitute.
- b. Hostel for Disabled Employees and Trainees: There are two hostels at Bangalore, one for men and the other for women. The disabled trainees and

employees are given admission whose income limit is less than ₹ 18,000 per annum.

- c. Voluntary Organisations for care of the old, infirm and disabled (GIA): Under the State Government scheme the NGOs are given financial assistance to run old age homes for the aged persons and provide them food, care and shelter. This department also recommends proposal of NGOs for grants to Government of India to run old age homes.
- d. Schemes for promotion of cultural activities and sports for persons with disabilities: Under this scheme financial assistance is given to disabled persons to undertake sports and cultural activities and also to institutions for conducting sports and cultural activities for disabled persons.
- e. Insurance Scheme for Parents of M.R Persons: The life of parents/guardians of M.R Persons is insured by the Department after whose death the mentally retarded persons will receive a monthly annuity for maintenance.

Public Awareness Schemes:

- a. World Day of Disabled: The United Nations has declared 3rd December as World Day of Disabled which is observed all over the State by conducting various programmes and activities to create public awareness.
- b. Public Awareness Schemes: The aim of this scheme is to create public awareness regarding prevention, early detection and intervention of disabilities and also about the schemes, services etc., available to disabled persons from the State Government, Central Government and NGO's. Under the scheme expenditure is incurred on production of documentaries, T.V. quickies, conducting seminars and conferences, workshops, publication of materials etc.
- c. Setting up of Information and Counselling Service Centre: Under this new scheme it is proposed to set up counselling and information service centre in the directorate to provide information to disabled persons regarding facilities and schemes available under State and Central Government, Counselling services regarding jobs, Vocational training and Educational services etc.

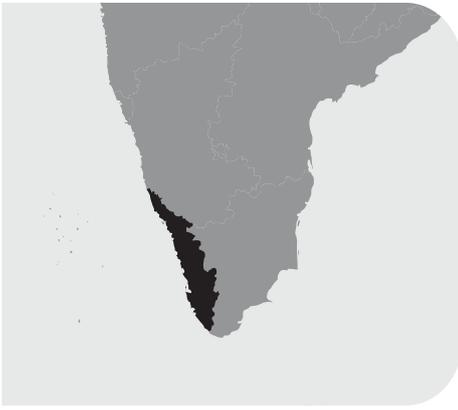
Other Concessions / Facilities

- a. Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR): This new Scheme is a service delivery system. C.B.R is essentially a programme based on the initiative of the disabled person and the community. It is proposed to take up this programme on pilot basis in two districts.
- b. Issue of Identity Cards to Disabled Persons: Under this scheme, identity cards signed by the Deputy Commissioner in different colours for each disability is given to disabled persons to enable them to get the facilities available to them easily.
- c. Grant-in-aid to NGOs running Special Schools: Under this scheme, 100% salary for teaching staff and 50% salary for non-teaching and ₹ 60 p.m. maintenance allowance is given to each disabled children residing in residential special schools. There are about 30 Special Schools run by Voluntary Organisations receiving grants from the State Government and about 100 receiving grants from the Government of India.
- d. Schools for the Deaf: There are 4 Schools run by the State Government for the Deaf children at Gulbarga, Mysore, Bellary and Belgaum.
- e. Schools for the Blind: There are 4 Schools for the Blind run by the State Government at Gulbarga, Mysore, Davangere and Hubli.
- f. Exemption from passing TCH exam: Blind persons are exempted from passing TCH qualification for becoming teacher in blind school.
- g. Exemption from Departmental Exam: Blind persons are exempted from State Government Departmental Exams.
- h. Exemption in Second and Third Languages: Deaf children who are studying in VII Std., are exempted from Second and Third languages.
- i. Sound Library: The text books of PUC and B.A Degree Courses in humanities subjects are recorded in Audio Cassettes and given to the blind students along with Tape-Recorder (Returnable) in order to encourage education

- among the visually impaired.
- j. Braille Press - Mysore: Braille books required by the blind students are supplied by the Government Braille Printing Press at Mysore.
 - k. Supply of Telephone Booths to Disabled Persons: Under this scheme, Telephone Booths are given to the disabled persons for economic rehabilitation.
 - l. Reimbursement of tuition fee to Pre-Matric and Post-Matric students: Under the Scheme, an amount of ₹ 25 p.m. is paid to the handicapped students

Concerned Officer

The Director
Department of Welfare for the Disabled
Podium Block, G.Floor
Dr. B.R.Ambedkar Veedi
Bangalore - 560 001



Kerala

The Kerala Government has set up 'The Kerala State Handicapped Persons Welfare Corporation' a Public Sector Undertaking registered under the Companies Act with the sole intention of organising welfare measures for the persons with disabilities.

Age relaxation: In The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for persons with disabilities for applying in Government jobs.

Reservation

3% reservation in admission in all the Education Institutions.
3% reservation in Government employment.
Upto 50% of teachers posts can be filled with persons with disabilities in special schools.
3% of all the poverty alleviation schemes are reserved for the persons with disabilities.

Scholarship / Stipend

The students with disabilities studying in schools, Colleges and those who attend professional courses and technical trainings are being given scholarship by Social Welfare Department. The applicant's annual family income should be below ₹ 36,000 and they should obtain 40% marks in the examination in the previous year. The responsibility for distributing scholarship has been transferred to local bodies.

Scholarship to Mentally Retarded Children

Children up to the age of 21 studying in Pvt. institutions whose parents' annual income is up to ₹ 24,000 are being paid scholarship at ₹ 60 p.m. Dress allowance at ₹ 40 p.a.. and school requisite allowance at ₹ 20 p.a.

Maintenance Allowance / Scholarship (through Institutions / NGOs)

In case of orthopaedically handicapped the additional allowance of ₹ 25 for purchase and maintenance of prosthesis appliances shall be paid on the recommendations of the head of the institutions.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

All persons with disabilities whose annual family income does not exceed ₹ 25,000 in urban area, ₹ 23,000 in rural area are granted monthly pension of ₹ 525 for those suffering from 40-79% of disability and ₹ 700 for those having 80% or more.

Distress Relief Fund for the Persons with Disabilities

As per G.O(MS) 4/95 SWD, dated: 24-01-95, Govt. sanctioned the Distress Relief Fund for the persons with disabilities. An amount of Rupees One Crore was deposited in Treasury as corpus fund. The interest accrued from the fund is being utilized for giving financial assistance for disabled persons for the following purpose:

1. For medical treatment, including surgery.
2. To persons who become handicapped due to accidents.
3. For any other purpose not covered by the existing schemes for the handicapped.

The maximum amount of relief per person a year has been fixed at ₹ 5,000. The eligibility criterion is that the income of applicants should not exceed ₹ 12,000 a year

Vocational Training in Tailoring, DTP, Book Binding, Leather Work, MS Office, Mobile Phone Repairing, Printing, Computer Software and Hardware to Persons with Disabilities

There are two Vocational Training Centres under this department at Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikkode. These institutions are providing vocational training to Youths with disabilities. At Thiruvananthapuram centre training is imparted on Book Binding, Tailoring and Embroidery works, Computer training in DTP course and Fashion Designing.

At Kozhikkode centre, training is given on book binding, Leather works and Computer training in DTP course. The duration of the course is 2 years for Book Binding, Tailoring and Embroidery and Leather works. The duration of DTP course is 6 months.

Conveyance Allowance	₹ 100 for Blind and P.H. employees of aided Schools and Government departments and ₹ 50 to part time employee (vide G.O.(P)No.521/87/Fin., dt. 15.6.87)
Bus Concession	Free travel facility is provided to person with blindness on bus and boat. All other persons with disability with more than 40% disability are eligible for concessional fare in State Buses and Private Buses.
Assistance for Self Employment	Loans are being given to persons with disabilities from banks through Kerala State Handicapped Persons Welfare Corporation for organizing self employment programmes with a subsidy of ₹ 2500 linked with bank loan with reduced rate of interest.
Financial Assistance to Blind and Orthopaedically Handicapped Advocates	In the scheme for the payment of financial assistance to Persons with blindness and Orthopaedically disabled Advocates the annual income of the family should not exceed ₹ 18,000. The applicant under this scheme shall be eligible for an exgratia non-recurring grant of ₹ 2,500 for the purchase of books, provisional suits etc., and they are being paid readers allowance at ₹ 1,000 per month for a period of 5 years.
Kerala State Electricity Board	The Kerala State Electricity Board provide free electric posts upto 235 metres for new connection to a person with disability.
Grace Marks	Up to 10 at the discretion of the Public Service Commission for direct recruitment to the various posts, except those specifically excluded.
Awards / Seminars / Sports	State awards are given to the outstanding employees among the physically handicapped and the most efficient PH employees. The existing grant amount is ₹ 3,000 per head. There is a scheme to give away state awards to institutions in recognition to the meritorious service rendered for different categories of handicapped.
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	The Kerala State Handicapped Persons Welfare Corporation is distributing Wheelchairs, Trycycle, Earphones, Cructhes, Calipers, etc free of cost and on concessional rate as per the availability, to the persons with disabilities
Exemption in Professional / Road Tax	Handicapped persons get exemption in professional / road tax
Other Concessions / Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Additional income tax exemption: Handicapped persons get additional income tax exemption of ₹ 5,000. b. Vocational Training: There are 2 vocational training centres run by the Government. One in Thiruvananthapuram and other in Kozhikode. c. Special casual leave: 15 days treatment of illness which is directly connected with the handicapped. (Vide G.O.(P)249/84/Fin. dt. 9.5.84). d. Supply of motorised Tricycles: Handicapped persons having a regular and reasonable income and who are to travel frequently in connection with their job are given subsidy of ₹ 2000 per beneficiary linked with bank loan for procuring motorised tricycles/vehicles. e. Financial Assistance to Blind Advocates: The blind advocates who are engaged in practice are given a grant of ₹ 2,500 towards the purchase of law books, professional suits payment of chamber rent etc. and a monthly allowance of ₹ 1,000 for engaging a reader to assist him in reading reference materials and in the preparation of notes. (As per G.O.No. 230/96/SWD dt. 30.11.96). Usually financial assistance to the blind advocates is given for 5 years. f. Financial Assistance to Orthopaedically Handicapped Advocates: The Orthopaedically Handicapped Advocates who are engaged in practice are given a grant of ₹ 2,500 towards the purchase of Law books, professional suits etc. g. Distress Relief Fund: For providing distress relief to the handicapped persons, a distress relief fund has been constituted in the State vide G.O. (MS) No. 4/95/SWD; dt. 24.1.95. The maximum amount of relief under the scheme is ₹ 2,000 in a case in a financial year. But in a very exceptional case, the limit

can be extended up to ₹ 8,000.

h. Physically handicapped persons who attend tests and interviews are given T.A as per the existing rule.

l. Handicapped persons, whose annual income does not exceed ₹ 12,000 shall be eligible for financial assistance for the following purposes:

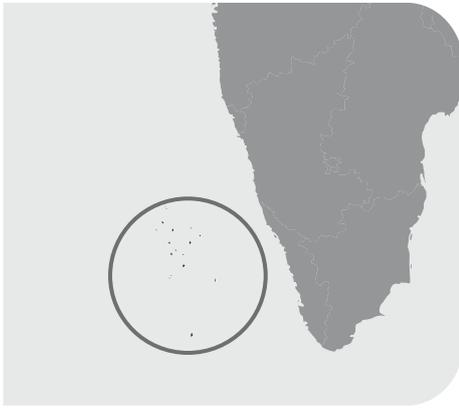
i. For medical treatment including operation

ii. To persons who become handicapped due to accident

iii. For any other purpose which are not covered under by existing schemes for handicapped.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare
Vikas Bhavan
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala - 635 033



Lakshadweep

Reservation In Government Job:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts under the Government, reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:
 Category of handicapped Percentage of reservation
 a. Visually handicapped 1%
 b. Orthopaedically handicapped 1%
 c. Hearing handicapped 1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government job

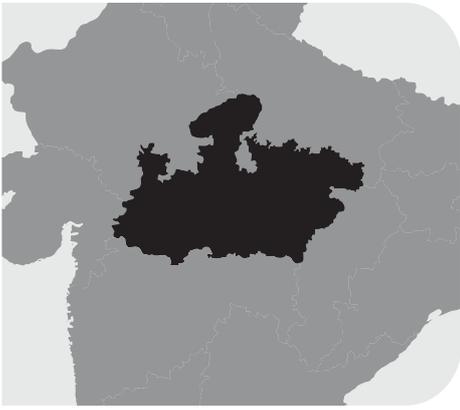
- Scholarship / Stipend** Seduction is free at all levels, scholarships/stipend provided to all students including Handicapped.
- Disability Pension / Social Security Pension** Disability pension of ₹100 p.m. is given to destitute of 60 years and above whose monthly income is less than ₹ 100 p.m. The pension to Mentally Retarded is paid irrespective of age.
- Exemption in Professional / Road Tax** Disabled persons are exempted from paying professional tax/road tax.
- Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances** Disabled persons get financial assistance for purchase of aids and appliances as per the following criteria

Family Income (Rupees per month)	Percentage of Assistance
Up to ₹ 200	90%
₹ 201 to ₹ 400	75%
₹ 401 to ₹1000	50%

Travelling allowance for the patient and escort is also being given.

- Other Concessions**
- Free supply of Tricycle, Wheel Chair, Hearing Aids etc. to handicapped persons.
 - There is a proposal to distribute motorised tri-wheeler and concessions on Ships/Boats etc. for the journey of the handicapped persons between the island and mainland.
 - Regular medical camps especially for disabled persons are being conducted by bringing experts from the mainland.

Concerned Officer
 The Director of Social Welfare
 U.T. of Lakshadweep
 Directorate of Social Welfare & Culture
 Kavaratti - 682 555



Madhya Pradesh

Reservation In government Jobs: The latest instructions of General Administrative Department meant for reservations of posts for persons with disabilities in Government and Public Sector jobs are as follows:

In Government jobs there is 6% reservation in 100 point roster for Class II, Class III, and Class IV Category for

	Reserved / Unreserved	Roster point for reservation in roster of disabled person
Class II Category		
Scheduled Caste	Reserved (Person with Disability)	16
General	General (Person with Disability)	33
Other Backward Classes	Reserved (Person with Disability)	49
General	General (Person with Disability)	66
General	General (Person with Disability)	82
Scheduled Tribe	Reserved (Person with Disability)	99
Class III and IV		
Scheduled Caste	Reserved (Person with Disability)	17
General	General (Person with Disability)	22
Scheduled Tribe	Reserved (Person with Disability)	51
General	General (Person with Disability)	67
General	General (Person with Disability)	83
Other Backward Classes	Reserved (Person with Disability)	100

The inter state reservation for visual, orthopaedic and hearing and speech impaired persons is maintained at 2% for each.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

Caner post: The State Government has decided to create one post of caner in all those offices having 500 chairs or more. These posts are reserved for visually impaired persons only.

In ITI: 3% seats are reserved for Physically Handicapped students.

In Engineering and Polytechnic Colleges: 2 seats are reserved in each State Engineering College and Polytechnic College for the disabled students. This reservation is over and above the sanctioned intake capacity. Candidates claiming admission against these seats are required to produce eligibility certificate from Distt. Medical Board and Supdt. Rehabilitation Centre for P.H., Napier Town, Jabalpur, M.P. 3% reservation of seats in hostels run by

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship to those handicapped students whose parents income is less than ₹ 2000 p.m. at the following rate:

Class	Rate
Primary level	₹ 25
Middle level	₹ 30
Higher Secondary level	₹ 35

Awards / Sports / Seminars

(Free books are also supplied for those whose family income is ₹ 750 p.m..)

The former Central Sector Scheme of Scholarships for various sections is now being operated by the state government as follows:

Type of course / Class	Rate (₹) p.m. for day Scholars	Rate (₹) p.m. for Hostelites	Reader's Allowance (₹) for V.H
Class IX to XII, Pre-University Course and I.A. / I. Sc.	85	140	50
BA/BSc/ BCom etc.	125	180	75
BE / BTech / MBBS / BDS / LLB / BEd / Dip .in Professional & Engg. Studies etc. / In-Plant Training	170	240	100
MA/ MSc/ MCom/ LLM / MEd etc.	170	240	100

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

- Persons with disabilities above the age of 65 years get disability pension at ₹ 150 per month.
- Destitute children with disabilities at the age of 14 years or more get social security pension at ₹150 per month.
- Children between 6 to 14 years who are enrolled in schools and whose family lives below the poverty line get social security pension at ₹ 150 per month.

Conveyance Allowance

Disabled persons get 5% of the basic with a minimum of ₹ 50 and a max. of ₹ 100 p.m. as conveyance allowance for commuting to office.

Bus Concession

- Visually impaired persons get 75% concession in fare in state level transport buses.
- Locomotor impaired persons get 75% concession in fare in state level transport buses, if the person is travelling alone. In case of the escort, 100 per cent concession is given to the impaired person, while there is no concession for the escort.

Assistance for Self Employment

The handicapped persons get assistance for self- employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Awards / Sports / Seminars

Institutions, individuals and Government employees get award for excellent work done in the field of disability and rehabilitation. (Two awards each are given, for visually impaired, hearing impaired and locomotor impaired employees).

Exemption in Professional Tax

Employees with disability are exempted from paying professional tax and road tax for vehicles

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Financial assistance is provided to person with disabilities for the purchase of and/or fitting of artificial limbs and various assistive/educational aids and appliances.

Other Concessions / Facilities

- Bonus marks in competitive exams: Persons with disability get 10% bonus marks in competitive exams.
- Blind students can be provided writers in the examination.
- Blind, speech and hearing handicapped get exemption in exam fee in higher secondary exams.
- A Braille press has been established at Bilaspur to supply Braille to blind free of cost.
- Persons with disability employed in Government job get free medical treatment.
- Free books are given to the blind.
- Disabled persons are exempted from Typing test for the post of LDC, subject to production of medical certificate about his/her inability to learn typing.
- 10% grace marks are given to disabled persons for appointment in Grade 'III' (Typist) and Grade 'IV' services.
- Leprosy cured persons are given ₹ 300 p.m. as maintenance allowance

through Voluntary Organisations.

- j. Blind persons are exempted from registration, application fees etc. in Government jobs.
- k. Blind persons get traveling allowance for attending interviews
- l. Training of Resource Teacher for Integrated Education: Under this scheme training in Integrated Education is given to teachers and staff of normal and special schools.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare Department
Government of Madhya Pradesh
Bhopal



Maharashtra

Reservation In Government Job: 3% reservation is available in Government job for physically handicapped persons in Grade 'C' and 'D' posts. The state government has decided that % vacancy of each for the Blind, the Deaf and for the Orthopaedically Handicapped in Class III and Class IV services of Government and comparable posts in the Public Sector Undertakings and local bodies to be filled in by Directorate of Recruitment in any office should be reserved for being filled in by these persons.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed up to 45 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

In Educational institutions: 2% seats are reserved for handicapped for extension programme like short term courses in the following:

- a. Mental Retardation: Awareness Programme (Pertaining to all disabilities and rehabilitation)
- b. Learning disability: 1% seat is reserved for handicapped for admission in Technical Institutions.

Scholarship / Stipend	The State Government awards ₹ 30 p.m. as scholarship to those handicapped students from Class I to Class VIII whose family income is less than ₹ 4,800 p.m. A certificate of at least 40% disability is required to be eligible for the scholarship
Maintenance Allowance (Through Institutions / NGOs)	Disabled persons whose age is 55 years and above get maintenance allowance grant through NGOs at ₹ 125 p.m.
Unemployment Allowance	Unemployed graduates are sent to work in Government Offices and given ₹ 100 for 15 days. They have to work for 4 hours per day.
Conveyance Allowance	Government employees get 5% of the basic or ₹ 100 p.m. maximum as conveyance allowance for attending office.
Bus Concession	State Road Transport is giving 75% concession in bus fares to blind, deaf and Orthopaedically Handicapped persons and 50% concession to their attendants
Assistance for Self Employment	The maximum assistance admissible under this scheme shall be ₹ 500 per beneficiary. In exceptional types of trades such as armature, winding, book binding, sheet metal work etc. for which the material of equipment required is much expensive, the ceiling of financial assistance may be raised up to a maximum of ₹ 1000 per beneficiary. Financial assistance up to ₹ 1000 is given to the trained disabled person. Contact Officer - Director of Social Welfare, Maharashtra, Pune-1. A margin money scheme is implemented by State Government for starting self-employment by disabled persons. Project up to ₹ 25,000 are considered for financial assistance. Out of this 80% will be Bank Loan and 20% (Limited to ₹ 5,000) is the subsidy from the State Government
Awards / Sports / Seminars	State Government gives awards to disabled for the excellent work done by them to those who fail to get National Awards by Central Government
Exemption in Road Tax / Professional Tax	Physically handicapped persons are totally exempted from paying professional tax from 1987-88. Physically handicapped persons are also exempted from paying road tax
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	Handicapped persons whose income is up to ₹ 1500 p.m. are entitled to 100% grant on aids and appliances, for those whose income is between ₹ 1,501 to ₹ 2,000 are entitled 50% assistance. The maximum limit of assistance and appliances is ₹ 3,000. Handicapped persons are also eligible for ₹ 150 as

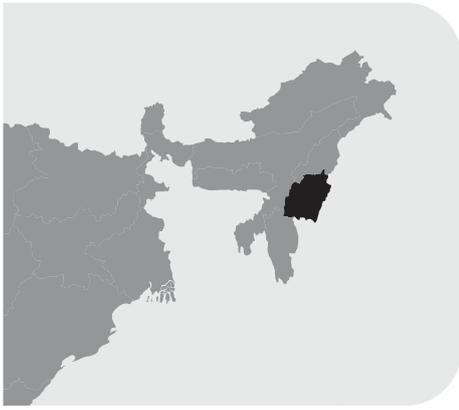
conveyance allowance and ₹10 for lodging and boarding per day up to maximum of ₹100 for attending rehabilitation camps for aids and appliances.

**Other Concessions /
Facilities**

- a. Relaxation in typing qualification: Relaxation in typing qualification for appointment to clerical post mandatory for MPSC.
- b. Margin money: Margin money provided to the disabled up to the maximum cost of the project ₹ 25,000. Out of this, 80% is bank loan and 20% is subsidy being provided by the State Government i.e. ₹ 5,000.
- c. Government Quarter: Disabled get preference in allotment of Government Quarter.
- d. Extra timing in exam: Deaf, dumb, blind and physically handicapped students get extra 30 minutes time in the Secondary and Higher Secondary Examinations. The above categories students are provided a Writer if necessary at the time of examination whose arrangement is done by the board.
- e. Spastic students are given extra 2 hours to solve the questions. They have options to write or type. Writer facility is also allowed.
- f. Exemption from drawing figures/graphs: Blind, Spastics and Physically Handicapped students get exemption in drawing figures/graphs in examination.
- g. Facility extended by Bombay University: Handicapped students could avail of the correspondence course facility even for science through correspondence. Writers allowed in examinations and an extra time up to 3 hours is given in each paper.
- h. Merit award to disabled SSC and HSC students: ₹100 is granted to meritorious handicapped students. 3 students covered every year.
- i. 10% reservation is made for handicapped for employment in milk distribution centres.
- j. Handicapped persons get priority in the sanction of controlled shops.
- k. 3 Residential Schools for the Orthopaedically Handicapped are set up at Nagpur, Aurangabad and Miraj.
- l. Blind students studying in colleges are given tape recorder and a set of 10 educational cassettes for their use.

Concerned Officer

The Dy. Dir. (E.R.H)
Directorate of Women, Child & Handicapped Development
Pune - 411 001



Manipur

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs

Scholarship / Stipend Mentally retarded children studying in Bohal Institute of Mentally Retarded get ₹ 300 p.a.. as scholarship. For other detail please contact Director, Social Welfare Department

Bus Concession Free bus travel facility is available for disabled persons.

Assistance for Self Employment SC/ST disabled persons get financial assistance for self-employment. There is no specific quota for disabled. Disabled persons get 50% subsidy on bank loan. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Concerned Officer The Director
Social Welfare Department
Government of Manipur
Secretariat Building
Imphal - 795 001



Meghalaya

Reservation No provision

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship to those handicapped students whose family income is less than ₹ 6,000 p.a. at the following rate:

Class	Amount (Rupees per month)	Hostellite
Pre-Primary Std. up to Class III	25	45
Class IV to VIII	30	55
Pre HSLC/Technical Course	35	60
Post HSLC/Technical Course	40	70
Other than these	30	55

Other Allowances

In case of severely disabled persons who require special arrangement for transport, an additional monthly allowance of ₹ 50 or actual expenditure whichever is less, is available. Each case will be examined on its own merit on the recommendations of the Head of the Institute. In case of VH, Readers' Allowance shall be paid.

Disability Pension

Under old age pension scheme for disabled persons, men above 65 years and women above 60 years get ₹ 100 p.m.

Assistance for Self Employment

Vocational training in various trades is provided for self-employment. Trainer gets ₹ 200 p.m. during training. Disabled persons also get ₹ 3000 to start self-employment.

Awards / Sports / Seminars

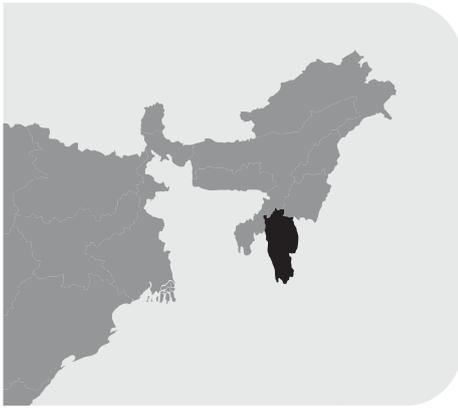
State and Districts awards are given to the Organisation/individual working for the handicapped persons. World Disabled Day is also celebrated in the State. Sports seminars are also being organised.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Prosthetic aids are given to physically handicapped persons who are less than 50 years of age, and whose parent's income is less than ₹10,000 per annum. Full grant is given subject to the maximum of ₹ 2,500 per individual.

Concerned Officer

Director of Social Welfare
Government of Meghalaya
Lowerlanchumeri
Shillong - 793 001



Mizoram

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Scholarship / Stipend

Handicapped students who are enrolled in institutions are awarded stipend at the following rates (Rupees per month):

Class I to V	: 30 p.m.
Class VI to VIII	: 40 p.m.
Class IX and above	: 60 p.m.

Also handicapped persons undergoing vocational training receive monthly

Assistance for Self Employment

Grant in aid in cash and in other ways is awarded to handicapped persons for self-employment in pig rearing, vegetable vending/petty business etc. Besides this carpentry tools, knitting machines, sewing machines and cobbler's tools are given in kind.

Vocational Training Centre

The Department runs vocational training centres for handicapped persons at Aizawal and Lunglei. Hostel accommodation is provided to male and female trainees separately at Aizawal.

Prosthetic Aid

Prosthetic aid is given in the form of artificial limbs, hearing aid, wheel chairs etc. to physically handicapped according to their needs.

Old Age Pension

Under the scheme of old age pension, financial assistance to destitute/invalid persons without any ostensible means of livelihood and no near relatives to support them or totally blind persons without relatives to look after them are given ₹100 p.m. per individual.

Old Age Home

Old age home with the capacity of 20 inmates is opened at Aizawal. In the Home, old age persons who have no relatives to look after them are admitted with free food and accommodation. Recreational facilities are also provided.

Residential Institution and Training Centre

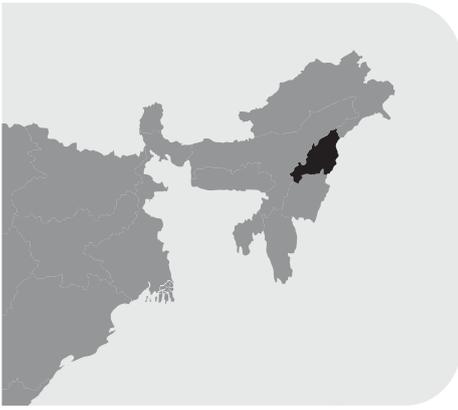
This Centre is for socially handicapped women who are in distress. The Centre imparts training in Tailoring. Sewing machines are also given to the trainees after completion of their training period

Grant in aid to NGOs Engaged in the Welfare of Disabled Persons

Government of Mizoram encouraged efforts of Non-Government Organisation (NGO) in the field of handicapped persons and support their programmes substantially by giving grants-in-aid from time to time.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare Department
Government of Mizoram
Aizawal



Nagaland

Reservation The State Government has decided to grant concession to physically handicapped persons for jobs in Public Service and Public Undertakings. These concessions are relaxation of maximum age limit by 5 years and educational qualifications wherever possible for such persons and also to give preference to PH (Physically Handicapped) persons

Relaxation in upper age limit: The upper age limit is relaxed by 5 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship to the physically handicapped students from Class I to Class VIII. The details are as follows:

Class I to IV : ₹ 35 p.m.
Class V to VIII : ₹ 50 p.m.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Handicapped persons get ₹ 60 p.m. as disability pension

Bus Concession / Rail Concession

Free bus travel facility to PH persons. Blind persons with escorts also get free transport facility in State Transport Buses.

Assistance for Self Employment

Under this scheme financial assistance is given to the blind and physically handicapped persons to start small-scale industries and other productive self-employment programmes

Financial Assistance

Under this scheme of financial assistance an amount of ₹100 is given to blind, invalid and bed ridden persons.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

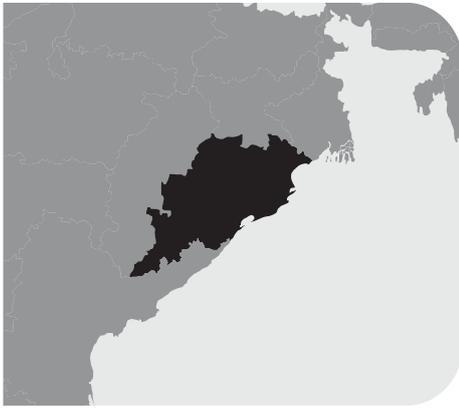
Under this scheme free prosthetic aids are provided to the handicapped. For details, please contact Director, Social Welfare Department.

Other Concession

- a. Stipend for learning typing: Under this scheme grant is given to the handicapped persons for undergoing training in typing.
- b. Home for the disabled: Under this scheme a home for the aged disabled who do not have any relative to support was proposed to be set up.

Concerned Officer

The Director of Social Security & Welfare
Department of Social Welfare
Government of Nagaland
Kohima



Orissa

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

In addition, 3% vacancies are reserved for disabled person in Cl.III gazetted posts and specially gazetted posts for physically handicapped persons under the State Government and Public Sector Undertakings.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons in Class III and Class IV posts

In Dealership: Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Department reserve 10% of vacant/new fair price shops for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind people for appointment as retailer under Public Delivery Systems.

In ITIs: Physically handicapped persons get 3% weightage of marks and 2% reservation in admission in Engineering Schools / Polytechnics and ITI's of the State.

Physically handicapped (Special Class Entrepreneur) is allowed 5% extra capital investment subsidy subject to a limit of Rs.5.0 lakhs over and above the limits prescribed in the State Industrial Policy, 1996.

In Artesian Training Course: The disabled persons get 3% reservation under Artesian Training Courses for self-employment being run by Orissa State Directorate of Technical Education and Training.

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship at ₹ 20 to ₹ 75 p.m. to the disabled students from class I to VII, whose parents income does not exceed ₹ 750 p.m. and who has been successful in the last qualifying exam. In addition to this, allowances are given for writer, maintenance of orthotic and prosthetic aids and transport facilities according to the nature of the handicap.

Disability Pension

Under the scheme introduced by the State Government w.e.f 2-10-84 an amount of ₹ 100 p.m. is given to the blind and orthopaedically handicapped destitute of 5 years of age and above. So far, 58812 disabled persons are benefited.

Unemployment Allowance

Disabled persons at the age group of 18 to 60 years get ₹ 75 p.m. as unemployment allowance.

Conveyance Allowance

Blind and orthopaedically handicapped employees get ₹ 75 p.m. as conveyance allowance.

Bus Concession

Free bus travel is provided to those O.H. and Blind persons whose disability is 50% and above and 50% concession to their escorts. 50% concession is given to those OH and blind persons whose disability is 40% to 50% without escort. 2 seats are reserved for the disabled. The mentally retarded persons are given 100% concession along with an escort with 50% concession.

Assistance for Self Employment

The scheme for self-employment of handicapped persons was introduced during 1985-86 to rehabilitate the disabled persons in urban areas of the state.

Under this scheme, Government subsidy at ₹ 8,000 per beneficiary is provided out of which ₹ 6,000 is meant for kiosk and ₹ 2,000 is earmarked for working

Awards/ Sports/ Seminars

The State Government has made provision for State Award to the outstanding disabled persons on 26th Jan. on the occasion of Republic Day Celebration. Organisations get grants to organise Sports/ Seminars. Parents and disabled are benefitted through this scheme. Cause and prevention of disability and rehabilitation can be disseminated to public through the mass awareness programmes, seminars/symposiums etc. In addition to this, art and painting competition are also organised annually for the disabled.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

- a. Assistance for purchase of aids and appliances: Free aids and appliances is given to those handicapped persons whose income is below ₹ 1,000 p.m. 50% concession is given to those whose income is above ₹ 1,000 p.m. (Transit homes have also been constructed for providing accommodation to the disabled persons who come to the District Fitment Centres for fitting of aids and appliances at Balasore, Puri, Ganjam and Phulbani.)
- b. Supply of special aids and appliances: The State Government introduced scheme during 1985 for supply of modern aids and appliances to the disabled persons for the purpose of reducing effects of disability. Aids and appliances like Tricycles, Wheel Chairs, Crutches, Hearing Aids, Folding Canes, Walking Sticks etc are purchased and supplied to the disabled persons.

Other Concessions / Facilities

- a. Assistance for medical treatment: Assistance for medical treatment is given to those whose family income is less than ₹ 200 p.m. The maximum limit is ₹ 3,000 per head. Medical expenditure is sanctioned by Director of Health Services.
- b. Maintenance of Physically Handicapped and Mentally Retarded children: The State Government is providing education to the disabled children viz-Blind, Deaf and Mentally Retarded children in Special Schools. At present, 50 Special Schools have been established in the State through NGOs out of which 18 for the Blind, 21 for the Deaf and 11 for Mentally Retarded children. 3084 disabled children of different categories are imparted education in different Special Schools and State Government provides assistance for running these schools in shape of Grant-in-Aid.
- c. Training and Rehabilitation of handicapped: In order to train the adult disabled person in some profitable crafts so as to make them capable to earn their living, vocational training like cane, bamboos, plastic work, home management tailoring, short hand, coir works, woolen carpets etc. are provided through the vocational training centres run by registered voluntary organisations. Every year 161 adult disabled are benefitted under this scheme.
- d. Education and training
 - i. Training of teachers for the blind and disabled: Three training centres one each for training the teachers of Blind, Deaf and Mentally Retarded have been established in Bhubaneswar with the help of National Institute for the Visually Handicapped (NIVH), Dehradun, National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped (NIHH), Mumbai and National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad to train teachers to be engaged in Special Schools of the State. The State Government is providing financial support for running these centres in shape of Grants-in-aid.
 - ii. Printing of Braille Books: In order to print Braille Books for the Blind students, a Braille press has been installed at the Red Cross School for the Blind, Berhampur and the Orissa Association for the Blind is managing a Braille Transcription Project.
 - iii. Reservation of seats in D. Pharm course and other institutions: 1% seat for D.Pharm Course in Government and Private Colleges are reserved for PH persons. Two seats each in U.C.E Burla, I.G.I.T Sarang, G.E.T Bhubaneswar against Orissa Quota seats in R.E.C Rourkela and one seat each in S.C.B Medical College, Cuttack, VSS Medical College, Burla, M.K.C.G Medical College, Berhampur and I.T.I Choudwar are reserved for physically

- handicapped persons.
- iv. Weightage for admission to Higher Secondary, 3 years degree and P.G Courses: Physically handicapped candidates are given weightage of an additional 5% marks for the purpose of admission over and above the aggregate marks secured by them for admission to Higher Secondary, 3 year degree and PG Courses.
 - v. Facilities for education: 1% seats in C.T Training schools and B.Ed training courses are reserved for the physically handicapped students. Besides, 3% of the vacancies in Class-III and IV posts under School and Mass Education Department are kept reserved for physically handicapped candidates, in addition the school and Mass Education Department is providing Rs.210/- P.M. to each students reading in two blind schools and two deaf schools situated at Bhubaneswar and Burla.
 - vi. Reservation in Joint Entrance Examination (Engineering and Medical): Two seats each in U.C.E Burla, I.G.I.T Sarang, C.E.T Bhubaneswar against Orissa quota seats in R.E.C, Rourkela and one seat each in S.C.B Medical College, Cuttack, V.S.S Medical College, Berhampur and I.T.I Choudwar are reserved for physically handicapped candidates.
 - vii. Reservation for Blind in Special Schools: 50% teaching posts in the Special School for the Blind are reserved for the Blind candidates.
- e. Care and protection of spastic children: This scheme has been introduced in 1990-91 for Education, Training and Rehabilitation of Spastic Children. Open Learning System, an NGO is supporting this scheme.
 - f. The State Government also provides Identity Cards and medical certificates to the disabled persons.
 - g. Under the IRD Programme, in the rural areas, the disabled persons get 3% reservation under TRYSEM Scheme. Those rural disabled persons who are poor and living below poverty lines, are eligible for TRYSEM trg. Under this scheme, the handicapped persons are being financed through banks and get 50% subsidy to start the self-employment activities.
 - h. The VRCs for handicapped are preparing the disabled persons for interviews through interview technique training programmes.
 - i. In examination, Secondary to University level blind students are provided with competent amanuensis (one who writes to dictation to answer the questions). Blind students are also permitted to take up an arts subject in place of mathematics and science in the matriculation or equivalent examination.
 - j. Under Apprenticeship Training Scheme of Apprenticeship Act 1981 Orissa State Apprenticeship adviser has identified suitable trades for training of disabled persons as well as surveyed employment opportunities in various establishments so that 3% disabled persons could be admitted under Apprenticeship Training Programme achieving the overall target of 3-4% under Apprenticeship Training.
 - k. Those disabled persons having deformity of fingers are exempted from typing qualification/speed in case of clerical jobs.
 - l. The blind persons are eligible for appointment in teaching jobs and preferential treatment is given in appointment of music teacher

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare
Panchayati Raj Department
Government of Orissa



Pondicherry

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

The Enforcement Cell of the Chief Secretariat, Government of Pondicherry, is entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the implementation of the reservation for the Disabled Persons.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for recruitment in Group 'C' and Group 'D' posts.

Scholarship is granted to all the disabled students from Class I to Post Graduation level, as detailed below:

Class	Reader's Allowance for the Blind*	Amount of Scholarship*	Income Limit*
I to III	5	5	9,000
IV to V	10	10	9,000
VI to VII	20	20	9,000
VIII	30	30	9,000
IX to XII	50	85	24,000
Under Graduate Course	75	125	24,000
Diploma in Professional Course	100	170	24,000
Post-Graduate, including Degree Courses in Engineering and Medicine	100	170	24,000

*Rupees per month

Conveyance Allowance ₹ 15 p.m. for Standard I to VIII and ₹ 50 for Standard IX to Post Graduation Level is paid for Orthopaedically Handicapped students only. The students should secure minimum 40% marks to become eligible grant of scholarship.

Bus Concession Free bus passes are issued to all disabled persons having a minimum of 40% disability and income not exceeding ₹ 30,000 p.a. for traveling in State Government owned transport corporation buses as well as private buses plying within the union territory.

Assistance for Self Employment Under this Scheme, the disabled persons are granted loans through banks. The Department of Social Welfare releases subsidy as detailed below subject to a maximum of ₹ 6000

Category	Percentage of Subsidy
Physically Handicapped Persons (Genl.)	33% of loan amount
Physically Handicapped Persons (SC/ST/ Widow)	50% of loan amount

All disabled persons with a minimum of 40% of disability and annual income not exceeding ₹ 9000 and who are between the age of 18 to 40 years are eligible for assistance under this Scheme.

Financial Assistance to Totally Disabled Persons	Under this Scheme, orthopaedically handicapped persons having 75% and above disability, mentally retarded persons having I.Q. below 20 and spastics are paid a sum of ₹150 p.m. provided their annual income does not exceed ₹ 9000 p.a.
Disability Pension / Social Security Pension	The disabled persons in the age group of 40 years and above, having a minimum 60% of disability are eligible for a grant of ₹ 100 p.m. under old aged, widows and disabled pension scheme being implemented by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Pondicherry.
Incentive for marrying a Handicapped Person	<p>Incentive to the tune of ₹ 5000 for the marriage between a disabled person and a normal person is granted within three months from the date of such marriage, subject to the following eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Age: The bride should complete 18 years of age and the bridegroom should have completed 21 years of age as on the date of marriage.</p> <p>Income: Their annual income should not exceed ₹ 25,000</p>
Awards / Sports / Seminars	<p>On the occasion of the celebration of 'International Day for the Disabled' every year, State Awards consisting of a Certificate and a cash of ₹ 3500 are distributed to the following</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Best Employee in each category viz. Visually Handicapped, Orthopaedically Handicapped and Hearing Handicapped. b. Best Self-employed person in each category namely Visually Handicapped, Orthopaedically Handicapped and Hearing Handicapped. c. A person who has rendered outstanding service for the cause of the disabled. d. An employer who has given employment to maximum number of Physically Handicapped persons in his Organisation also gets the State Award of ₹ 10,000 and a Certificate.
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	Prosthetic appliances such as calipers, tricycles, low vision aids etc. are supplied free of cost to the needy disabled provided their income does not exceed ₹ 1500 p.m.
Exemption from Sales Tax / Road Tax	Disabled persons are exempted from paying road tax and sales tax while purchasing two wheelers.
Other Concessions / Facilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Supply of Sarees and Dhoties once a year during local festivals. b. Supply of Musical instruments, sports articles to the recognised handicapped welfare organisations. c. Supply of Braille Watches, Walking Sticks and Cooling Glasses to totally blind persons. d. Reimbursement of repairing/maintenance charges of ₹ 200 to tricycle holders. e. Disabled persons in the age group of 15-30 years with minimum educational qualification (V to X Standard) are eligible for undergoing vocational training in printing trades and motor armature winding for a period of one year with a monthly stipend of ₹ 580 per month. f. Celebration of International Day for Disabled Persons on 3rd December every year, with free meals throughout the day. Various sports events take place on this day and prizes are distributed to the winners. g. Identity cards are issued to all handicapped persons on application. h. Annual tour for disabled persons.
Concerned Officer	The Director Directorate of Social Welfare Government of Pondicherry Pondicherry



Punjab

Reservation In government Jobs:

3% Government jobs are reserved for the PH persons. 1% jobs each for Blind, Deaf and Orthopaedically Handicapped in Government and comparable posts, in PSUs and local bodies. Appointment to handicapped persons is given on priority basis i.e. they are not required to go through the normal procedure of coming through the Employment Exchange or through advertisement.

Age Relaxation: For the purpose of appointment to class III and class IV posts under the Punjab Government, the upper age limit is relaxed up to 10 years for the PH persons.

Relaxation in typing test and other medical standard: Relaxation in typing qualification for entry into clerical cadre have been allowed by the Government Relaxation in health standard have been allowed by the Government

Deaf, mutes or deafness is not considered a disqualification for appointment of the person if otherwise fit for the job.

In ITIs: Under the apprentices act 1961 the employers in the public and private sector are required to reserve 3% seats for the PH persons.

In Educational Institutions: 2% seats are reserved for admissions in B.Ed. Courses. This admission is open to blind persons also. The universities have provided 3% reservations for PH persons for the purpose of admission in each subject. In M.Phil. Courses, only 1% seats are reserved for them.

Scholarship / Stipend

Scholarships have been rationalised and the revised rates are as follows:

Up to Matriculation : ₹ 200 p.m.
For studies beyond Matric : ₹ 300 p.m.

The income criteria for parents in all cases would be ₹ 2,500 p.m. in the case of one disabled child and ₹ 3,000 p.m. in the case of two disabled children.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

The Punjab Government has revised rates for pension for the disabled persons. As per the new rates, an amount of ₹ 200 p.m. is given to the disabled persons. The amount is payable from birth or from the date of disability. The income criteria is as follows:

- Applicant should have income of less than ₹ 500 p.m.
- In case of married person, the income of both should not exceed ₹ 750 p.m.
- In case of parents, the income criteria is ₹ 2,500 p.m. for one handicapped child and ₹ 3,000 p.m, for two handicapped children.

The Deputy Commissioner in the district has been declared as the sanctioning authorities and the District Social Security Officer have been made the drawing and disbursing officers under the Scheme.

Unemployment Allowances

Unemployment allowance at ₹ 150 p.m. for undergraduates and ₹ 200 p.m. for graduates and above is being paid. In the case of blind and deaf persons, this is being given from the date of registration in the employment exchanges and in the case of other handicapped persons after three years of registration.

Conveyance Allowance	Conveyance allowance is paid at 5% of the salary subject to maximum of ₹ 100 p.m. where conveyance allowance is allowed to other categories of employees, this 5% is in addition.				
Bus Concession	Free travel concession is allowed to the blind persons in the buses of Punjab Roadways and Punjab Road Transport Corporation(PRTC) and 50% concession is allowed to attendant accompanying the blind persons. Other handicapped persons are allowed 50% concession in the fare				
Assistance for Self Employment	Punjab Financial Corporation gives loan of ₹ 2.00 Lakhs where the disabled person is required to contribute only 10% as against 25% from others. In the case of loan up to ₹ 50,000, disabled person need not be an artisan.				
Incentive for marrying a Handicapped Person	New scheme envisaging payment of marriage grant of ₹ 5,000 to any person marrying Visually Handicapped girls is being introduced.				
Awards / Sports / Seminars	State award scheme for voluntary organisations and best employees has been introduced for giving cash awards, certificates and citations.				
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	The scheme was taken up to enable the handicapped persons to lead as normal a life as possible. The Government pays for the cost of limb according to the income of the applicant as per the criteria mentioned below: <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Income up to ₹ 300 per month</td> <td>: full cost</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income between ₹ 300 - 500 per month</td> <td>: half of cost</td> </tr> </table>	Income up to ₹ 300 per month	: full cost	Income between ₹ 300 - 500 per month	: half of cost
Income up to ₹ 300 per month	: full cost				
Income between ₹ 300 - 500 per month	: half of cost				
Other Concessions / Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Financial assistance to the victims of chronic diseases: Aim at providing financial assistance up to ₹ 100 p.m. per head to patients of chronic diseases discharged from hospitals to enable them to continue special diet at home. Leprosy and mentally ill persons are covered under this scheme. Family income of the patient is limited to ₹ 3,000 p.a. for this scheme. b. Exemption in medical exam fee: Blind person has been exempted from the payment of medical exam fee at the time of the first entry into Government services. c. Retirement age benefit to the Blind: Retirement age in the case of blind employees has been raised to 60 years. 				
Concerned Officer	The Principal Secretary Department of Social Security and Development of Women & Children Government of Punjab Chandigarh				



Rajasthan

Reservation In Government Jobs:

For appointment to posts of subordinate, Ministerial and Cl.IV services:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

In Housing Board: 1.5% of the houses constructed by Rajasthan Housing Board are reserved for the Disabled.

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed for 10 years for Blind and Deaf persons and by 5 years for Orthopaedically and Speech Defective persons.

Scholarship

Scholarship is given to those disabled students whose parents' income is less than ₹1,500 p.m. The details of which is as follows:

Class	Day Scholar*	Hostellite*
I to IV	40	
V to VIII	50	
IX to XII	85	148
BA, BSc, Bcom	125	148
BE/BTech/MBBS/B.Ed./LL.B/Diploma in professional course	178	248
MA, MSc, MCom, LLM, MEd	170	240

*Rupees per month

Reader's allowance is provided to blind students only.

Income Criteria: The State Government awards scholarship to handicapped students from Class I to Higher Education out of the State Government budget. The income criteria of parents/guardian for eligibility of this Scholarship has been raised to ₹ 40,000 p.a.

Disability Pension

Disabled persons of 8 years of age and above and have disability get ₹ 100 p.m., Couple get ₹ 150 p.m.

Unemployment Allowance

Disabled graduate get ₹ 150 and post graduate get ₹ 250 as unemployment allowance for a period of 2 years or till they get employment, whichever is earlier. The applicant should have passed in Ist or IInd division from a recognised institute

Conveyance Allowance

The handicapped State Government employees are given 5% of their pay or ₹ 75 p.m. as conveyance allowance.

Bus Concession

Free bus travel is provided to physically and mentally handicapped persons in Rajasthan State Roadways Corporation.

Assistance for Self Employment

Trained handicapped person can get loan for self-employment up to ₹ 10,000 at 4% Interest.

Subsidy on Loan

The rate of subsidy in rural area is 33.3% subject to maximum of ₹ 3,000 while in urban area the rate is 50% with maximum of ₹ 5,000.

Grace Mark in Exam

5% grace mark is given to the disabled in the qualifying exam in all competitive examination.

Awards / Sports / Seminars

On the lines of National Award instituted by Government of India a state level award scheme has been started from the year 1988-89.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

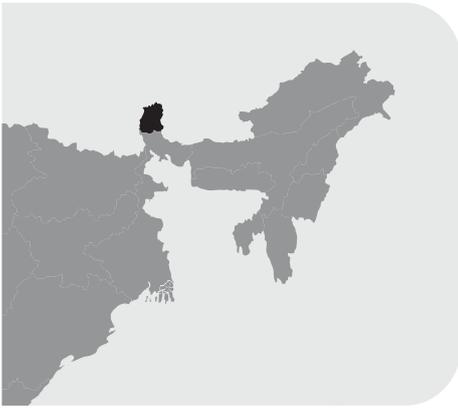
Handicapped persons get financial assistance for purchase of aids and appliances. The cost of the aids & appliances must not be less than ₹ 25 and greater than ₹ 2,500. Full assistance is given to those whose income is ₹ 750 p.m. and 50% assistance is given to those whose monthly income is between ₹ 751 to ₹ 1500 p.m.

Other Concessions / Facilities

- a. 5% of marks wherever minimum percentage of marks is prescribed in any examination.
- b. Government accommodation: The blind and the deaf get priority in allotment of Government accommodation where ever possible.
- c. Medical examination fee: No fee is payable for medical examination and for issue of certificate for the disabled persons.
- d. Training Centre: District Rural Development Agency conducts training for vocational purposes. Pay/Stipend of ₹ 100 p.m. to local trainees and ₹125 p.m. to outsiders is given.
- e. Reimbursement of Rail/bus fare: To and fro rail fare or actual fare is admissible to the handicapped for appearing in any examination/interview for training & employment purpose.
- f. For temporary appointments, the condition or desirability of training/test, experience wherever prescribed does not apply to P.H person. However, the P.H person may be required to receive such training within 2 years of appointment.
- g. Supply of textbooks and other educational material: The Social Welfare Department is supplying textbooks free of cost to students who are Visually Handicapped, Hearing Impaired and Mentally Handicapped.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare Department
Government of Rajasthan
Jaipur



Sikkim

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below:

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Scholarship / Stipend

The State Government awards scholarship to the disabled students at the following rate (all payments are in Rupees per month):

Type of course	For day Scholars*	For Hostelites*	Reader's Allowance for V.H*
Primary to VI Class	50	120	35
VII to VIII Class .	60	140	45
VII to VIII Class	85	140	-
Technical & Vocational Course trainee	60	140	40

*Rupees per month

(₹ 300 p.m. is given to disabled students studying in special school. In addition, ₹ 500 p.a. is also given to the students for uniform).

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Completely helpless disabled whose age is above 40 years are given ₹ 100 p.m. Blind persons also get ₹ 100 p.m.

Conveyance Allowance

Blind and Orthopedically Handicapped employees of State Government and PSUs are entitled to get ₹ 50 p.m. (at 10% of the basic) subject to ₹ 50 maximum as conveyance allowance.

Bus Concession

Free travel facility to the blind is available in the state owned buses.

Assistance for Self Employment

Handicapped persons get assistance for self-employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Other Concessions / Facilities

Vocational training: Training in cane and bamboo work is given to disabled person in sheltered workshop at Jorethang. Attempts for their rehabilitation are made by offering them jobs.

Concerned Officer

The Secretary
Social Welfare
Welfare Department
Government of Sikkim
Gangtok - 737 101



Tamil Nadu

Reservation In Government Jobs:

In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts under the Government, reservation are provided in direct recruitment for physically handicapped persons as indicated below

Category of handicapped	Percentage of reservation
Visually handicapped	1%
Orthopaedically handicapped	1%
Hearing handicapped	1%

Age relaxation: The upper age limit is relaxed by 10 years for handicapped persons for applying in Government jobs.

In Educational Institutions: 3% of the seats in educational institutions/training centres/ professional courses (except in medicines) are reserved for disabled persons

Scholarship / Stipend

a. Disabled students studying (including colleges and vocational/professional /technical courses) get scholarship. The rate of scholarship varies from.

Grade	1 st - 5 th	6 th - 8 th	9 th - 12 th and Diploma	UG	PG
Scholarship (₹ p.a.)	500	1500	2000	3000	3500

b. Disabled children aged 5 years and above get free boarding and lodging Facility under special education programme. They also get free supply of 4 sets of uniform every year.

c. Speech and Hearing impaired children in the age group of 3 to 5 years get Free Special Education, Speech Therapy and boarding and lodging facilities.

Maintenance Allowance

Maintenance allowance at ₹ 1000 p.m. is given to severely disabled physically handicapped and mentally retarded/handicapped persons having disability 75% and above.

Disability Pension

Disabled persons get ₹ 1000 p.m. as disability pension

Unemployment Allowance

Visually handicapped persons between the age group of 18 to 40 years (45 years in the case of SC/ST) get unemployment allowance at the following rate:

Graduate / Post Graduate	: ₹ 450 p.m.
SSLC	: ₹ 300 p.m.
HSC Pass	: ₹ 150 p.m.

Conveyance Allowance

A sum of ₹ 1000 p.m. is paid to all handicapped persons working in State Government and organisations undertaken by the State Government

Bus Concession

Visually handicapped persons are allowed free travel in State owned transport corporation buses from any place to any place within the district in which they reside. Mentally Retarded/Mentally ill persons are provided free travel facility with one escort. The speech and hearing disabled and locomoter disabled persons are also given free travel concession to go to schools/colleges/work spots etc.

Assistance for Self Employment

Unemployed disabled persons in the age group of 18 years and above and whose family income is below ₹ 12,000 p.m. get loan for starting self-employment ventures. The Government gives subsidy on loan at the maximum of ₹ 3,000.

Incentive for Marrying a Disabled Person

Normal persons marrying visually handicapped persons get marriage incentive as given below:

- ₹ 12,500 in the form of National Saving Certificate
- ₹ 12,500 in cash towards marriage expenses

Assistance for Purchase of Aids and Appliances

Disabled persons are given various types of aids and appliances free of cost. The details are as follows:

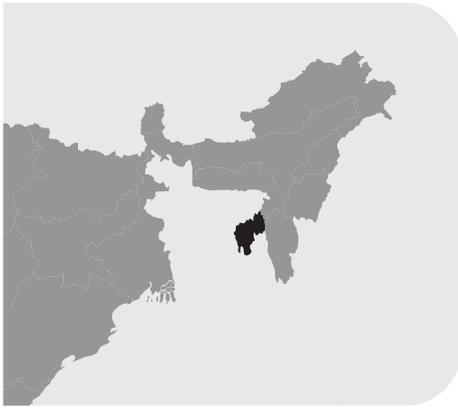
- a. **Tricycles:** Tricycles is given free of cost to locomotor disabled person whose both lower limbs are affected by polio/ accident/ any other reason. The beneficiary age should be more than 12 years and family income is less than ₹ 30,000 p.a.
- b. **Wheel Chair:** Wheel chair is distributed free of cost to the paraplegic persons/other locomotor disabled whose family income should not exceed ₹ 30,000.
- c. **Hearing aid:** The hearing handicapped persons whose family income is below ₹ 12,000 p.a. are given hearing aid free of cost.
- d. **Goggles and folding sticks:** Goggles and folding sticks are distributed free of cost to the needy visually handicapped persons.

Other Concessions / Facilities

- a. Identity card for the handicapped: Permanent identity card is issued by the Director for the Rehabilitation of the disabled in order to get the concession and benefits and to avoid the hardships of the handicapped persons.
- b. Training to blind: Visually handicapped (male/female) who have studied up to 8th std. and above can get training in the trades of fitter-cum-machine operator, book binder, winder, chalk making, handloom weaving are provided free boarding and lodging. 4 sets of dress are given free of cost to the disabled whose age is 18 years and above.
- c. Free Braille: Free distribution of Braille books / Braille appliances to all the blind children studying in Government and recognised private schools of visually handicapped.
- d. Scribe facility to VI: VI students studying in IX std. and above get scribe assistance facility. Visually handicapped student dictates answers for the questions in public examinations. A sum of ₹ 200 per paper is paid to the scribe.
- e. Training to adult blind: Visually handicapped destitute who is in the age group of 18 to 40 years (up to 45 years in case of SC/ST) get training in Handloom Weaving and Chalk making with free boarding and lodging facilities.
- f. 2% of the teachers' posts in the educational institution for V.H are reserved for V.H persons.
- g. Book allowance: Book allowance at ₹ 150 p.a. is given to those disabled students of Std.I to Std.VIII whose family income is less than ₹ 12,000 p.a.
- h. Assistance to set up book stalls: Disabled persons are given bank loan for setting up book stalls. The site is also allotted. The Government subsidy on loan is ₹ 3000.
- i. Special Apprenticeship programme: Under the programme, Visually Handicapped and Speech and Hearing impaired persons who have passed the training course at Government Industrial Centre for Blind, Poonamalee and Government I.T.I, Guindy respectively are given Special Apprenticeship training. Stipend at ₹ 400 p.m. is given for the period of one year. Permanent employment opportunity is given as and when the vacancy arises in respective institutions/work spots.
- j. Training to Speech and Hearing impaired: Speech and Hearing impaired persons who have passed VIII Standard and are above 18 years of age get training in Government I.T.I, Guindy in the trade of Fitter. Stipend at ₹ 200 p.m. is given during training.
- k. 2% of the non-teaching posts in the educational institution for 'Speech and Hearing' are reserved for Speech & Hearing impaired persons.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Department of Social Welfare
Government of Tamil Nadu
Secretariat Building, Chennai – 35



Tripura

Reservation In Government Job:

2% posts are reserved for the handicapped persons in the Government jobs.

Age relaxation: Upper age limit is relaxed by 5 years for O.H. and V.H. persons for applying in Government jobs.

In Educational Institutions: 2 seats are reserved in each I.T.I.s.

Scholarship / Stipend

- a. Disabled students of Class I to VIII get scholarship at the following rate:
 - i. ₹ 70 p.m. to ₹ 95 p.m. for blind and deaf
 - ii. ₹ 60 p.m. to ₹ 80 p.m. for other categories of handicapped
- b. Disabled students of Class IX to University level also get scholarship up to the maximum of ₹ 240 p.m. depending on the Class/Course.
- c. Scholarship is also given to the disabled physically handicapped students for doing music, vocational, technical and professional courses.

Unemployment Allowance

₹ 30 p.m. is given to the unemployed disabled whose name is registered in the employment exchange.

Conveyance Allowance

Conveyance allowance up to ₹ 50 p.m. is given to the disabled employees.

Bus Travel

Free bus pass for the blind and other types of disabled persons are given for the State Transport Buses.

Incentive for Marrying a Disabled Person

Incentive to the tune of ₹ 5000 for the marriage between disabled and normal person is given

Assistance for Self Employment

Handicapped persons get assistance for self-employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Assistance is given to the disabled for purchase of aids and appliances.

Other Concessions

- a. Academic qualification for recruitment for the post of Cl.IV employees has been reduced from class VIII to Class V.
- b. 5 persons in each of the 956 GRAM SABHAS, 9 Notified Areas and 1 Municipality Area are being given pension at the rate of ₹ 75 p.m.
- c. A special residential school is set up in the State with modern instruments for the deaf and dumb students.
- d. Special institutions for the visually handicapped students (boys and girls) have already been set up in the State for giving them education in Braille method. Recently, Integrated Education for Disabled Children (IEDC) scheme has been implemented in the State for the welfare of Visually Handicapped students.

Concerned Officer

The Secretary
Department of Social Welfare & Social Education
Government of Tripura
Agartala - 799 001



Uttarakhand

Scholarship / Stipend The State Government awards scholarship to the disabled students (OH/VH/HH) at the following rate:

Class	Scholarship Amount (In ₹)
1-5	50
6-8	80
9-12	120
Graduate / Postgraduate Courses	140

Social Security Pension Scheme

The State Government has sanctioned disability pension ₹ 400 per month for the people with disabilities fulfilling the following criteria –

- Age more than 18 years
- From BPL family
- Disability should be more than 40%
- Income less than ₹ 1000 per month

Incentive for Marrying a Disabled Person

The disabled persons get assistance for self-employment. For further details, please refer to the 'Key References' at Appendix 'A'.

Criteria	Support (in ₹)
Male Disabled	11,000
Both Disabled	14,000

Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances

Assistance provided to the bonafide handicapped persons in order to improve their mobility. Free aids and appliances within ₹ 500 to 3500 limit are given to those handicapped persons whose parent's or self monthly income not exceeding ₹ 1000.

Economic Assistance for Self Employment

Support up to ₹ 20,000 for starting one's own shop or small business for those who own a piece of land.

- Loan amount: up to ₹ 15,000 with only 4% interest rate.



Uttar Pradesh

Reservation In Government job: 3% reservation in all the categories of State Services has been made e.g. 1% for visually handicapped, 1% for physically handicapped and 1% for deaf and dumb

Age relaxation for job: 10 years in the prescribed upper age limit is available in State Government Services of group 'C' & 'D' and 5 years relaxation in the prescribed upper age limit is available in group 'A' and 'B' services

.In Educational Institutions: There is no uniform policy for all the institutions/ colleges. However, the facilities have been provided to disabled by certain Universities, which are as follows -

- i. All types of fee relaxation - Agra, Kanpur, Meerut Univ.
- ii. Relaxation in merit at the time of admission - Allahabad Univ.
- iii. Reservation in admission -
 - 5% Ruhelkhand University
 - 2% Kumaon University
 - 1% Roorkee University
- iv. Preference in admission - Agra Univ. to disabled soldiers
- v. Writer's facility in Exam. - Lucknow, Kanpur, Agra University.
- vi. Half hours extra time in examination - Kanpur University

Scholarship / Stipend

Disabled students get scholarship at the following rates -

Class I to V	: ₹ 15 p.m.
Class VI to VIII	: ₹ 20 p.m.
Class IX to XII	: ₹ 85 p.m.
Graduation	: ₹ 125 p.m.
Post Graduation	: ₹ 170 p.m.
Degree/PG in Professional courses	: ₹ 170 p.m.

Maintenance Allowance / Grant-in-aid for Disabled Persons

The handicapped persons whose income is not more than ₹ 225 p.m. are given maintenance allowance at the rate of ₹100 p.m.

Disability Pension / Social Security Pension

Old age persons living below poverty line get ₹125 p.m. as disability pension.

Conveyance Allowance

The State Government employees who are handicapped, are given conveyance allowance at the following rates:

Pay Level	Monthly Allowance
Up to ₹ 999 p.m.	₹ 30 p.m.
1000 to 1999 p.m.	₹ 50 p.m.
2000 and above	₹ 60 p.m.

Bus Concession

There is a proposal to provide free travelling to handicapped person in UPSRTC buses up to a distance of 1000 kms in one calendar year. Government of UP have already allocated ₹ 9.19 lacs for this purpose in this current financial year.

Construction of Shops for Handicapped Persons

There is a proposal to provide ₹ 20,000 to all categories of handicapped persons for construction of shops. This amount includes ₹ 5,000 as grant-in-aid and ₹15,000 as loan without interest. Government of UP have allocated ₹ 50 lakhs for this purpose in the present financial year.

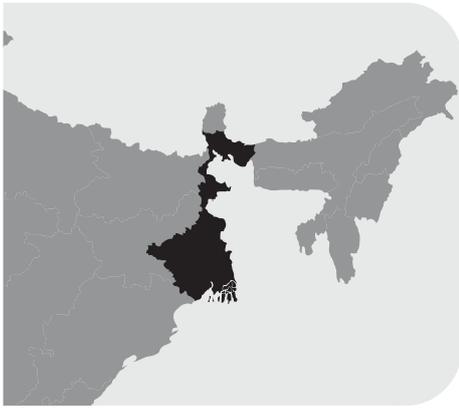
Assistance for Marrying a Disabled Person

₹ 11,000 is given to those normal person who marry to a disabled persons

Concession / Grace Time / Writer / Syllabus in the Examination

Only Visually handicapped students are given grace time, writer and relaxation in syllabus of Mathematics, Science and Geography Map.

State Award	There is a scheme for State level award to efficient handicapped employees, self employed handicapped, and placement officers of handicapped persons				
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	Actual costs of the aids/appliances or ₹1000 whichever is less, is given as grant-in-aid to handicapped persons.				
Other Concessions / Facilities	<p>a. Reimbursement of medical treatment: For special diseases medical reimbursement is admissible to State Government employees.</p> <p>b. Exemption in typing test: Physically handicapped persons get exemption in proficiency in typing test at the time of appointment to clerical posts.</p> <p>c. Institutional services: Institutional services are provided to different categories of handicapped persons in the following way:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. School for visually handicapped students: 4 (3 for boys and 1 for girls) ii. School for physically handicapped students: 2 iii. School for deaf and dumb students: 4 iv. School for mentally retarded children: 2 (1 for boys and 1 for girls) v. Training Centre-cum-Sheltered workshop for visually handicapped: 3 vi. Training Centre-cum-Sheltered workshop for physically handicapped: 6 vii. Training Centre-cum-Sheltered workshop for deaf & dumb: 1 viii. Old and infirm home: 2 <p>Maintenance allowance at ₹ 312 per inmate is provided in Schools and at ₹ 240 per inmate is provided in workshops.</p> <p>d. Principal/ Superintendents and Teachers teaching in schools for handicapped persons are given special allowance at the following rates:</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Principal/Superintendents</td> <td>: ₹ 45 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Teachers</td> <td>: ₹ 35 pm</td> </tr> </table> <p>e. Eight Special Employment Exchanges for handicapped persons have been opened in the state.</p> <p>f. Orders have been issued for earmarking one primary school for disabled in every district of the state.</p> <p>g. Orders have been issued to conduct Vikalang Vandhu meeting monthly under the Chairmanship of District Magistrate, every month.</p>	Principal/Superintendents	: ₹ 45 pm	Teachers	: ₹ 35 pm
Principal/Superintendents	: ₹ 45 pm				
Teachers	: ₹ 35 pm				
Concerned Officer	The Secretary Department of Handicapped Welfare Government of Uttar Pradesh Lucknow				



West Bengal

Reservation In Government job: 3% of jobs are reserved for the handicapped in state Government and State Public Sector Undertakings.

Age relaxation for job: The upper age limit for recruitment to State Government services and posts whether recruited through the Public Service Commission, West Bengal or otherwise is 45 years of Physically Handicapped persons vide G.O. No. 10517-F.

Scholarship / Stipend	Disabled students get scholarship at ₹ 60 p.m. from Class I to Class VIII from the Directorate of Social Welfare whose parents' income is ₹ 750 p.m. a. In case of Orthopaedically Handicapped candidates having abnormal defects, which need special arrangement for transport, an additional allowance up to ₹ 20 p.m. is available. b. In case of blind candidate an additional amount of ₹ 20 p.m. is admissible as reader's allowances on the basis of the certificate issued by the head of the institution vide G.O.No. 1870-SW, dt.3.8.90.
Disability Pension / Social Security Pension	₹ 300 per head per month is paid to the disabled person with effect from 1.4.97 as Disability / Social Security pension in terms of this Department Notification No. 3014-SW, dated. 10.7.97.
Conveyance Allowance	Disabled employees get conveyance allowance at ₹ 100 p.m. per Government employee.
Bus Concession	Free bus and tram journey facility is available to following types of physically handicapped persons: a. Persons who are blind in both eyes b. Persons whose visual impairment is 40% or above c. Persons who are unable to move on their own because of disease of long duration or congenital defects d. Deaf and dumb persons including students
Assistance for Self Employment	Three categories of disabled persons viz. Locomoter Handicapped, Deaf and Dumb and Blind with degree of disability 40% and above are allowed a grant by State Government to the extent of ₹ 1,000 only for self employment programmes.
Assistance for purchase of Aids and Appliances	As per order no. 7760-SW, dated 29.10.93 prosthetic aids are given to a handicapped person whose income is not enough to enable him/her to procure the aid. No specific income limit for the handicapped person or his/her relation has been mentioned in the said order.
Other Concessions / Facilities	a. Relaxation in typing knowledge: The qualification regarding working knowledge in typing for the post of clerks has been relaxed. b. Issue of Identity cards: Medical Boards have been constituted in all the Districts and identity cards for the disabled are being issued to the eligible beneficiaries with above 40% disability in the Districts from the District Headquarters and in Calcutta from the Directorate of Social Welfare. c. Economic Rehabilitation for the skilled draftsmen: For economic rehabilitation of skilled draftsman of I.T.I ₹ 5000 per trainees may be sanctioned to help them start any trade. Financial assistance may also be made available to them from financial institutions where Government will act as guarantor. d. Appointment of Commissioner: A Commissioner has been appointed for Persons with Disabilities for the State of West Bengal, vide notification number 2751-SW, dt.16.6.97.

- e. Appointment of Competent Authority: A competent Authority has been appointed for the purpose of recognition of Institutions for the Persons with Disability, vide notification number 2751-SW, dt. 16.6.97.
- f. Other concessions given by the State Government to the handicapped persons are
 - i. Preference in housing
 - ii. 1% of Government flats are reserved for the disabled
 - iii. Concession in communication
 - iv. Concession in Custom duty
 - v. Concession in age, qualification, etc.
 - vi. Exemption from payment of examination fee for competitive examinations of SSC, UPSC for recruitment of various Groups 'C' and B (Non-gazetted) posts.
 - vii. State Award is given to outstanding employees of physically handicapped persons.

Concerned Officer

The Director
Social Welfare
Department of Relief & Welfare
Writer's Building
Calcutta

Chapter 7

Analysis and Critical Insight to the Different Schemes and Policy Implemented in Various States

On analysing the existing schemes and concessions at the Central as well as State Governments level, the following observations could be made:

1 Schemes not in Consonance with National Laws

With the adoption of Persons with Disabilities Act 1995 and ratification of the UNCRPD, India has moved from Welfare State to Rights-based Society. As per the recent Supreme Court Judgment, as India has ratified the UNCRPD, all its provisions become applicable to the country as well. Thus all the Acts, notifications and office orders need to be revised to render our laws, rules and regulations and provisions in consonance with the provisions of UNCRPD. Once we have national laws which are applicable to all the citizens of our country with the same force, it is mandatory to introduce all the schemes, concessions and entitlements on line with provisions of these Acts.

2 Variations from State to State

A detailed analysis of schemes and concessions introduced by different State Governments as listed in Chapter 6 establishes a wide variation in various

such schemes. As we have national laws, it is imperative that all such concessions and entitlements should also be uniform. For example, there is wide variation in the amount of scholarship; nature of travel concessions; amount and eligibility criteria for pension, social security etc. Similarly, a large number of provisions of the PWD Act 1995 which the State Governments were required to adopt and implement in a phased manner have not done so even after 14 years of adoption of the legislation. For example, some States have issued notifications under Section 39 of the PwD Act in respect of admission to various educational institutes; other States have not taken any such measures so far. Similarly, as per Section 33 of the PWD Act, all State Governments were expected to adopt a list of identified posts for persons with different categories of disabilities. The list of schemes reflected in Chapter 6 does not mention whether any State has undertaken this exercise.

3 Some Focus Areas Mission

Although India has a growing disability rights movement and one of the most progressive policy frameworks in the developing world, a lot more needs to be done in creating awareness and ensuring implementation. This includes introducing

preventive health programs, screening all children at a young age, empowering disabled young adults with employable skills, encouraging the public as well as private sector to employ people with disabilities, ensuring full integration by overcoming stigma, promoting newer thinking and better co-ordination of programs. It also requires improving the proper identification, assessment and certification of persons with disabilities. Besides PWDs and members of community should be made active participants in this process.

4 Awareness about the Various Provisions

While the Central and State Governments have evolved and implemented a variety of schemes, there is hardly any provision for creating awareness about the same. Creating public awareness and simplifying the procedures is as important as evolving of the schemes itself. Because of these limitations, a large number of people with disabilities are not in a position to take advantage of these schemes.

5 Strategies for Prevention and early Detection of Disabilities

Despite PWD Act devoting a full Chapter V on these aspects, hardly any State Government has evolved any new scheme or new programme in this respect after the enactment of the Act. Further in-depth study should be made to identify the existing schemes on prevention and early detection of disabilities. For this purpose, it would be essential to study schemes of Department of Health and Family Welfare of the State Governments and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in respect of these initiatives. As per the provisions of the PWD Act, the Government is bound to evolve various schemes for ensuring prevention of disabilities and early detection and assessment of children with disabilities.

6 Planning and Execution of Educational Provisions for EFA

While the Section 26 of the PWD Act mandates the Appropriate Government and Local Authority to provide free education to all children with disabilities up to 18 years of age. The existing schemes of the State Government have not clearly evolved and implemented appropriate schemes for achieving this objective. While some State Governments have started covering children with disabilities under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, this initiative does not ensure free education to all such children. Even a nation-wide scheme on promoting

integrated education of children with disabilities has been discontinued with effect from 31st March, 2009. On the contrary, these schemes and such other initiatives should have been expended to all the States and across the country. The existing schemes as listed in Chapter 6 fall short of ensuring free education to all children with disabilities.

7 Employment: A Missing Link

Despite reservation of posts at all levels in the establishments covered under PWD Act as per Section 32 is mandatory, the schemes adopted by Government have not made adequate provisions in this regard. Most State Government has not identified posts suitable for persons with different categories of disabilities as per provisions of Section 33 of the Act. While Certain Ministries of the Central Government, especially public sector corporations and Railway have taken adequate measures in this regard, most State Governments have not taken adequate measures in this regard.

8 Lack of Focus on Women with Disabilities

According to Census-2001, there are 93.01 lakh women with disabilities, which constitute 42.46 percent of total disabled population. Women with disabilities require protection against exploitation and abuse. Even the UNCRPD also mandates that new initiatives should lay focus on covering women with disabilities. Despite India ratifying the UNCRPD, no steps so far have been taken for enhanced coverage of women with disabilities. The existing schemes of the Government have so far made any special provisions in this regard. The State Governments need to develop special programs for promoting education, employment and providing of other rehabilitation services to women with disabilities keeping in view their special needs.

9 Children with Disabilities

Children with disabilities are the most vulnerable group and need special attention. The National Policy desires the Government strive to:

- a. Ensure right to care, protection and security for children with disabilities;
- b. Ensure the right to development with dignity and equality creating an enabling environment where children can exercise their rights, enjoy equal opportunities and full participation in accordance with various statutes;
- c. Ensure inclusion and effective access to education, health, vocational training along with specialized rehabilitation services and
- d. Ensure the right to development as well as

recognition of special needs and of care, and protection of children with severe disabilities.

The existing schemes and entitlements of the Government at present have not taken adequate measures to evolve child focused schemes and concessions.

10 Barrier-free Environment

The policy document says 'The Government will strive to achieve the goal of barrier free design is to provide an environment that supports the independent functioning of individuals so that they can participate without assistance, in every day activities'. The existing schemes have so far not recognized this vital aspect and have not taken measures on ensuring barrier free environment. The Ministry of Urban Development and Town Planning have evolved and adopted various building bye-laws for ensuring the same. These measures are however obligatory and not enforced as mandatory provisions. The State Governments also need adopt these provisions on mandatory basis and enforce the same at least for public buildings.

11 Social Security

Disabled persons, their families and care givers incur substantial additional expenditure for facilitating activities of daily living, medical care, transportation, assistive devices, etc. Despite the PWD Act mandating the Governments and Local Authorities to take measures on ensuring social security, no adequate measures in this regard so far have been taken. Therefore, there is a need to provide them social security by various means. Beside the Central Government, the State Governments should be encouraged to develop a comprehensive social security policy for persons with disabilities.

12 Promotion of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

The National Policy recognizes the NGO sector as a very important institutional mechanism to provide affordable services to complement the endeavors of the Government. It says that NGO sector has played a significant role in the provisions of services for persons with disabilities. Government has also been actively involving them in policy formulation, planning, implementation, monitoring and has been seeking their advice on various issues relating to persons with disabilities. Interaction with NGOs will be enhanced on various disability issues regarding planning, policy formulation and implementation. Networking,

exchange of information and sharing of good practices amongst NGOs will be encouraged and facilitated. The existing schemes however do not mention clearly the extent of involvement of NGOs in extension of various concessions, facilities and entitlement to persons with disabilities.

13 State Level Policy Guidelines

After announcement of National Policy for Persons with Disabilities, there were/are some efforts at states level too. However, development of state-level disability policies has remained relatively neglected. To date, only few states have made progress in this regard. Some of the states which announced/drafted disability policies are Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, MP and Tamil Nadu. Again these all states have different policy formats, guidelines and future directions

While the existing schemes and concessions evolved by various State and Central Governments look very impressive and elaborate, these fall very much short of mandatory provisions of various disability specific laws. All those organizations and individuals promoting advocacy and right based approach should convince the Governments to modify the existing schemes and concessions suitably in line with mandatory provisions of the laws to which people with disabilities are entitled.

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