

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

OVERVIEW

In order to give focused attention to Policy issues and meaningful thrust to the activities, aimed at welfare and empowerment of the Persons with Disabilities, a separate Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities was carved out of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on May 12, 2012. The Department is primarily mandated with the task of empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and act as a Nodal Agency for matters pertaining to Persons with Disabilities, including ensuring effecting closer coordination among different stakeholders: related Central Ministries, State/UT Governments, NGOs etc. in disability sector.

The **Vision** of the Department is to build an all-inclusive society, in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of Persons with Disabilities so that they can lead productive, safe and dignified life. Its **Mission** is to empower Persons with Disabilities, through its various Acts/Institutions/Organizations and Schemes for rehabilitation and to create an enabling environment, that provides such persons with equal opportunities, guarantees protection of their rights and enables them to participate as independent and productive members of society. In order to realize this Vision and achieve the Mission, the Department strives for the following objectives:

- (a) Undertaking following measures for rehabilitation:
 - (i) Physical rehabilitation, which includes early detection and intervention; counselling and medical rehabilitation; and assistance in procuring appropriate aids and appliances for reducing the effect of disabilities;
 - (ii) Educational rehabilitation;
 - (iii) Economic rehabilitation including vocational education;
 - (iv) Social empowerment
- (b) Developing rehabilitation professionals/personnel
- (c) Improving Internal Efficiency /Responsiveness/Service Delivery and
- (d) Advocating empowerment of Persons with Disabilities through awareness generation among different sections of the Society.

According to Census 2011, there are 2.68 crore Persons with Disabilities in India (who constitute 2.21 percent of the total population). Out of the total population of Persons with Disabilities, about 1.50 crore are male and 1.18 crore female. These include persons with visual, hearing, speech and loco-motor disabilities; mental illness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities and other disabilities. The number of persons with disabilities of all categories by type of disability, as per Census 2011 is as under: -

Category wise Number of Persons with Disabilities as per Census: 2011			
Type of Disability	Persons	Males	Females
	1	2	3
In Seeing	50,33,431	26,39,028	23,94,403
In Hearing	50,72,914	26,78,584	23,94,330
In Speech	19,98,692	11,22,987	8,75,705
In Movement	54,36,826	33,70,501	20,66,325
Mental Retardation	15,05,964	8,70,898	6,35,066
Mental Illness	7,22,880	4,15,758	3,07,122
Any Other	49,27,589	27,28,125	21,99,464
Multiple Disability	21,16,698	11,62,712	9,53,986

Plan Expenditure Report of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) (2011-12 to 2016-17)

(Rs. in crore)

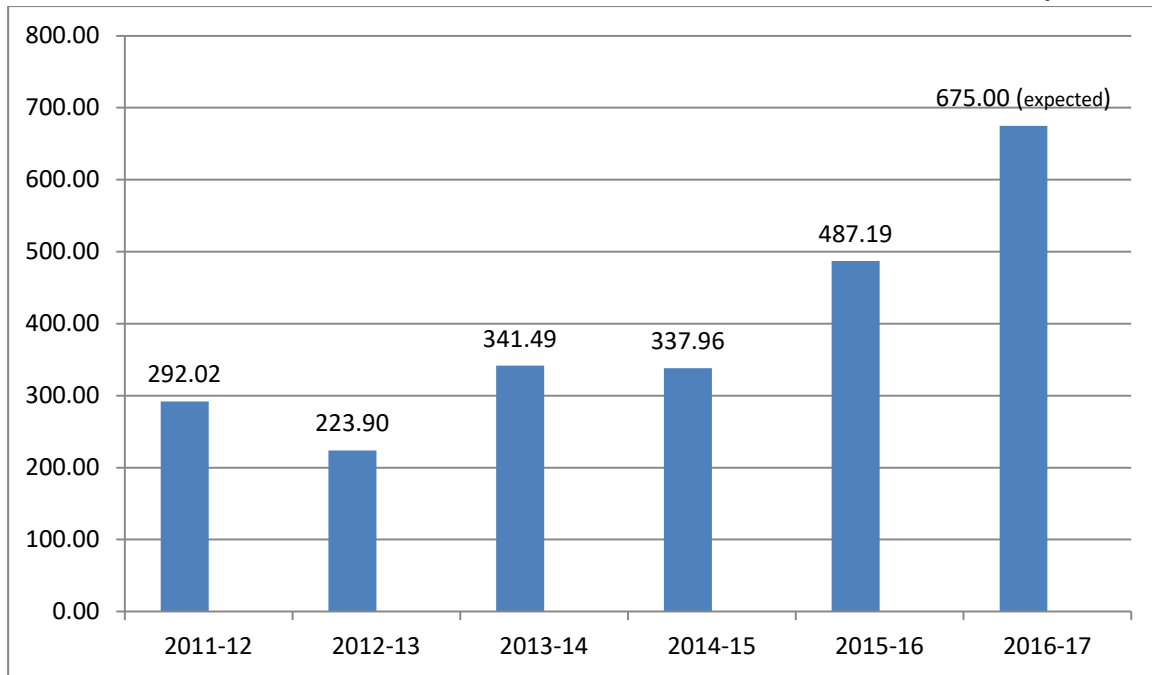
Year	Budget Estimates	Revised Estimates	Actual Expenditure
2011-12	480.00	334.70	292.02
2012-13	500.00	261.24	223.90
2013-14	560.00	460.00	341.49
2014-15	565.00	375.00	337.96
2015-16	565.40	540.00	487.19
2016-17	700.00	695.49	675.00 (expected)

- Number of Schemes implemented by the Department in Year 2013-14: **08**

- Number of Schemes being implemented by the Department in Year 2016-17: **24**

Graph showing trend of Plan Expenditure from 2011-12 to 2016-17

(Figures in crore)



- **Rs 675.00 crore is the anticipated expenditure, likely to be achieved in 2016-17.**



I. EDUCATIONAL EMPOWERMENT

Scholarship Schemes:

For empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) through education, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) is implementing six scholarship schemes. Brief features of the schemes are given below:-

(A) Pre-Matric Scholarship:- The scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities was launched during 2014-15. The objectives of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the students with disabilities, for studying in class IX & class X. Number of scholarships to be granted every year, is 46,000 all over India. 50% of the scholarships are reserved for girls. Scholarship amount includes Rs.600/- p.m. for Hostellers, Rs.350/- p.m. for Day-Scholars, Book & Ad-hoc Grant of Rs.1000/- per annum and Disability-specific Allowances like Reader Allowance, Transport Allowance, Escort Allowance etc., ranging from Rs.160/- to Rs.240/- per month.

During 2015-16, an amount of Rs.160.02 lakh was disbursed to 2368 beneficiaries. During 2016-17, an amount of Rs.27.02 lakh was disbursed to 380 beneficiaries. For the year 2016-17, 16573 applications have been received under the scheme. Scholarship amount to the beneficiaries for 2016-17 will be disbursed by March, 2017.

(B) Post-Matric Scholarship:- The scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for Students with Disabilities was launched during 2014-15. The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the students with disabilities for studying in class XI and up to Post Graduation. Number of scholarships, to be granted every year, is 16,650 all over India. 50% of the scholarships are reserved for girls. Scholarship amount includes Maintenance allowance of Rs.400 – 550/- for day scholars per month Rs.650-1200/- for hostellers per month, Reimbursement of tuition fees (up to Rs.1.50 lakh per annum), Book allowance of Rs.1500/- per annum and Disability-specific Allowances like Reader Allowance, Transport Allowance, Escort Allowance etc. ranging from Rs.160/- to Rs.240/- per month.

During 2015-16, an amount of Rs.321.39 lakhs was disbursed to 3565 beneficiaries. During 2016-17, an amount of Rs.204.25 lakh was disbursed to 1702 beneficiaries.

For the year 2016-17, 19104 applications have been received under the scheme. Scholarship amount to the beneficiaries for 2016-17 will be disbursed by March, 2017.

(C) Scholarship for Top Class Education:- The Scheme of Scholarship for Top Class Education was launched in April, 2015. The objective of the scheme to provide financial assistance to the students with disabilities for Post Graduate Degree or Diploma Courses in 240 institutes of excellence like IITs, IIITs, IIMs etc, as notified in

the scheme. Number of scholarships to be granted is 160. In this, 50% of the scholarships are reserved for girls. Scholarship amount include Tuition fees up to Rs.2 lakh per annum, Monthly maintenance allowance of Rs.3000/- for hostellers/ Rs.1500/- for day scholars and Special Allowance of Rs.2000/- p.m. for Book Grant, Computer and software allowance.

During 2015-16, an amount of Rs.23.84 lakh was disbursed to 14 beneficiaries.

During 2016-17, an amount of Rs.56.81 lakh was disbursed to 30 beneficiaries. For the year 2016-17, 192 applications have been received under the scheme. Scholarship amount to the beneficiaries for 2016-17 will be disbursed by March, 2017.

Above mentioned three scholarship schemes i.e. Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Top Class Education are being implemented through National Scholarship Portal (www.scholarships.gov.in). The students can apply on-line and the benefits reach them through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

(D) National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities (NFPwD)

It is a fellowship scheme for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D. courses in any University, recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC). Number of fellowships, to be given is 200 per annum. The fellowship amount under this Scheme is Rs.25,000/- per month for JRF (first two years) and Rs.28,000/- per month for SRF (third year onwards). In addition, there are provisions of Contingency grant, Escort/Reader Allowance and House Rent Allowance (wherever applicable). Selection of candidates is done by UGC. Disbursement of fellowship amount is done by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities through a designated bank directly to the bank accounts of the selected candidates.

During last 4 years 2012-13, 13-14, 14-15 and 15-16, 854 beneficiaries have been sanctioned this Fellowship. The selection of beneficiaries for 2016-17 is under process in UGC. So far, an amount of Rs.52 crore was disbursed to 674 beneficiaries under this scheme. The selection of beneficiaries for 2016-17 is under process in UGC.

(E) National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities

The scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for Students with Disabilities was launched with the objective of providing financial assistance to the students with disabilities for pursuing studies abroad at the level of Masters' Degree and Ph.D. Twenty (20) scholarships can be awarded every year, out of which six are reserved for women. Average Scholarship amount under this scheme is Rs.15 lakh per beneficiary per annum. The scholarship amount includes the following:

Annual Maintenance Allowance	For UK- GBP 9,900/- ; For Other Countries – USD \$ 15,400/-.
Annual Contingency allowance	For UK- GBP 1,100/- ; For Other Countries- USD \$ 1,500/- .
Incidental Journey Allowance	USD \$ 20/-
Equipment Allowance	Rs.1500/-
Tuition Fees, Cost of Air Passage, Poll Tax, Visa Fees, Med Insurance Premium, Local Travel	Actual expenses are reimbursed.

So far, an amount of Rs.37.27 lakh has been disbursed to 2 PwDs beneficiaries under this scheme. For 2016-17, 24 applications have been received under the scheme. Selection of beneficiaries for 2016-17 is under process.

(F) Free Coaching for Students with Disabilities

This scheme has been formulated recently, and is going to be launched with effect from April, 2017. The objective of the Scheme is to provide coaching for students with disabilities with a view to enable them to appear in competitive examinations, jobs in Govt./Public sector and for admission in technical & professional courses. Scholarship amount includes entire coaching fee (payable to the coaching institute), Stipend of Rs.7000/- p.m. for outstation candidates and Rs. 4,500/- p.m. for local candidates.

II. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

The National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Training of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) under SIPDA Scheme

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the National Action Plan for skill training of persons with disabilities, in collaboration with the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) on 21st March 2015.

Target: The National Action Plan (NAP) sets a target of skilling 5 lakh PwDs in first 3 years (1 lakh in first year, 1.5 lakh in second year and 2.5 lakh in third year) and thereafter 20 lakh in the next four years upto the year 2022.

Present Status

In order to implement National Action Plan (NAP), a panel of Empanelled Training Partners (ETPs) has been prepared comprising 202 organizations including 14 Govt. Organizations and 188 Voluntary Organizations (VOs). So far, an amount of

Rs.86.65 lakh has been released to 10 ETPs (7 Govt. and 3 NGO) for skill development of 2840 PwDs.

Apart from these Empanelled Training Partners (ETPs) skilling of PwDs is also being done through 7 National Institutes (NIs), National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC - a PSU under DEPwD) and Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) run by Voluntary Organizations as a part of Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme. During 2014-15, an amount of Rs.10.23 cr. was spent for skill development of 9,000 PwDs. During 2015-16, an amount of Rs.37.59 cr. was spent for skill development of 28,042 PwDs. During 2016-17, an amount of Rs.5.94 crore has been spent for skill development of 24,670 PwDs.

Disbursement of Loans by NHFDC

In the last 3 years, an amount of Rs.278.95 crore was released by NHFDC covering 45430 PwDs. The average disbursement of loan during three years was Rs.92.98 crore for an average 15143 PwDs per year.



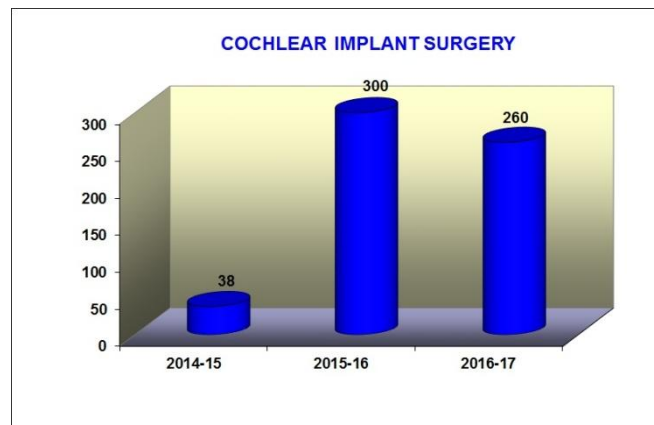
III. SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT & REHABILITATION

A. ADIP Scheme:-

- Consequent upon revision of ADIP Scheme w.e.f. 01.04.2014, the Ministry has notified disability-wise list of high-end aids and assistive devices for Visually Impaired, Leprosy Affected, Persons with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, Hearing Impaired and Orthopedically Impaired.
- Under ADIP Scheme, grants-in-aid of Rs.384.44 crore has been utilized during the last two years 2014-15 & 2015-16 and 2016-17 (as on 31.01.2017) benefitting 6.40 lakh beneficiaries approximately through 4718 camps.
- 200 Mega Camps/Special Camps were organized covering 27 States for

distribution of aids and assistive devices under the ADIP Scheme at the cost of about Rs.172.27 crore benefitting 2.14 lakh Divyangjan approximately.

- Under the Scheme, Aids and Assistive Devices costing Rs.112.54 crore approx. Have been provided to 1.96 Lakh Divyang Children with Special Needs (DCWSN) through 2906 Camps under ADIP-Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) in the Primary Schools all over the country during 2014-15 & 2015-16 and 2016-17 (as on 31.01.2017).
- For the first time, Cochlear Implant program under the ADIP Scheme was launched on International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 2014. Under this Scheme, 140 Hospitals (both Government and Private) across the country have been empanelled. Since the launch of cochlear implant programme in December, 2014, Rs.29.58 crore has been released to ALIMCO as on 31.01.2017 for procurement of cochlear implants. The Scheme is run through an online portal – www.adipcochlearimplant.in.
- So far 598 surgeries (537 under ADIP and 61 under CSR funding) have been undertaken and all the children are undergoing post-operative rehabilitation.



Beneficiaries of Cochlear Implant interacting with Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi during the Mega camp, held at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 22.01.2016.



B. Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA)

Grants-in-aid are provided under the Scheme to States/UTs and various Government Institutions/Organizations mainly for creation of barrier free environment, accessible website and skill training to Divyangjan.

- During 2014-15 & 2015-16 and 2016-17 (as on 31.01.2017), an amount of Rs.228.61 crore has been released for installing 63 lifts, 304 ramps and 330 adaptable toilets for creation of barrier free environment and also for making 918 accessible websites.
- During 2014-15 & 2015-16 and 2016-17 (as on 31.01.2017), Skill Training has been imparted to 51987 Divyangjan.

C. Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS)

Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) financial assistance is provided to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities which is aimed at enabling them to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychological and/or social functional levels. There are 18 sub-components under the Scheme. The broad areas include the following:

- (a) Programmes for pre-school and early intervention;
- (b) Special education;
- (c) Vocational training and placement;
- (d) Community based rehabilitation;
- (e) Manpower development;
- (f) Psycho-social rehabilitation of persons with mental illness; &
- (g) Rehabilitation of leprosy-cured persons, etc.

Up to 90% of the project cost as per the norms of the scheme is sanctioned to the NGOs, based on the recommendation of the State Government concerned. The entire process of implementation and monitoring of the scheme is done on-line through the website of www.ngograntsje.gov.in. The organizations are located throughout the country. The number of on-line application received, recommended by the State Governments, number of beneficiaries and amounts released during the year 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 (as on 06.02.2017), are as under:-

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	No. of Online Application Received from NGOs	No. of applications recommended by the State Govt.s	No. of Beneficiaries for whom GIA released (in lakh)	Amount released
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2014-15	1500	690	1.81	5008.04
2015-16	1559	795	2.10	5019.00
2016-17 (As on 6.2.17)	1199	452	1.36	3712.12

During the current financial year, this Department is expected to cover more number of beneficiaries and the entire budget allocation for the scheme is likely to be utilized. All the Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) are supposed to make payment of honoraria to their staff members etc. through cheques or through electronic transfer to their bank accounts. The revision of cost norms of the Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) is under consideration.

D. (DDRC)

These centres are set up in un-served districts of the country for providing comprehensive services to PwDs. A total number of 310 districts have been identified for setting up these centres, and 248 have been started so far.



IV. LEGISLATIVE MEASURES

1. Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016

With the twin objective of harmonising the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 and also to ensure better implementation, the Government had introduced the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 in the Rajya Sabha on 07.02.2014. The Bill was passed by the Parliament in its Winter Session and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 was notified on 28.12.2016. Once the Act is implemented,

it will replace the existing Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

Central Rules are being framed by a Working Group in order to bring the new law into force with effect from 14th April, 2017. State Governments have been requested to frame their State rules. The Central Government has constituted two Expert Committees - one to finalise the guidelines for assessment and certification of various disabilities, and the other to identify posts in Government sector for the purpose of reservation for Persons with Disabilities.

The salient features of the new Act are:-

- i. The new law provides for various rights and entitlements for Persons with Disabilities. These rights and entitlements include equality and non-discrimination, community life, protection against cruelty and inhuman treatment, access to justice, legal capacity etc.
- ii. The Act also mandates the appropriate Governments to frame schemes and programmes in the area of social security, health, rehabilitation, recreation, skill development etc. for effective empowerment and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities.
- iii. The types of disabilities have been revised from existing 7 to 21; these are: Blindness; Low-vision; Leprosy Cured; Hearing Impairment (deaf and hard of hearing); Locomotor Disability; Dwarfism; Intellectual Disability; Mental Illness; Autism Spectrum Disorder; Cerebral Palsy; Muscular Dystrophy; Chronic Neurological conditions; Specific Learning Disabilities; Multiple Sclerosis; Speech and Language disability; Thalassaemia; Hemophilia; Sickle Cell disease; Multiple Disabilities including deafblindness; Acid Attack victims & Parkinson's disease.
- iv. Reservation has been revised from 3% to 4% in Government jobs for certain persons or class of persons with benchmark disability.
- v. Every child with benchmark disability between the age group of 6 and 18 year shall have the right to free education.
- vi. For strengthening the Prime Minister's Accessible India Campaign, stress has been given to ensure accessibility in public buildings (both Government and private) in a prescribed time-frame.
- vii. Strengthening the Office of Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities and the offices of State Commissioners of Disabilities has been proposed.
- viii. The Act provides for penalties for offences, committed against Persons with Disabilities; designated special Courts have been proposed to handle cases relating to violation of rights of PwDs

Other New Initiatives

1. Unique Disability Identification (UDID) Project

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is in the process of implementing UDID Project with a view to create a national data-base for Persons with Disabilities and also to issue unique ID card to everyone of them. The details are:-

- Software has already been developed and hosted on NIC cloud.
 - The project will also provide an online platform for issuance of disability certificate.
 - The UDID project would ensure that the Disability Certificates are issued to all PwDs.
 - It will subsequently help in tracking the physical and financial progress of delivery of benefits and in terms of hierarchy at all levels on implementation from Village level to Block level, District level, State level and National level.
 - It will encourage and ensure transparency, efficiency and ease of delivering the Government benefits to the Persons with Disabilities.
 - The data-base would capture personal details, identity details, disability details (Type, Area, %, No. of Certificate etc.), education details, employment details (status, occupation, BPL/APL, income etc.), disability certificate details, scheme related details, voter ID and other Id proofs of person/parents/guardian etc., and UDID renewal/re-issue/card surrender details.
 - The project will be implemented in following 2 phases:-
 - Phase-1 of the project will commence in January/February 2017 in the States/UTs of Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, & Uttar Pradesh.
 - Phase-2 of the project shall cover all the remaining States/UTs.
 - The project is to be completed by **2018**.
 - The UDID card would be Aadhaar based and will have Aadhaar number.
 - Training of the State & District level authorities, involved in the process of implementation of UDID project on the Application Software, has also been started. So far training programmes have been completed in Haryana, Chandigarh, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kerala, Odisha, Tripura, Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.
- ### **2. Up-Gradation of National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH) to the level of National University for Rehabilitation Sciences and Disability Studies (NURDS)**

Hon'ble Finance Minister in his Budget Announcement for the year 2015-16 had included up-gradation of National Institute of Speech and Hearing (NISH), Thiruvananthapuram (presently owned by Government of Kerala) to the level of National University for Rehabilitation and Disability Studies (NURDS).

A detailed Project Report for establishment of the National University was finalised. The project is to be implemented in two phases within a period of five years. Proposal was approved by the EFC on 30.03.2016. Based on the recommendations of EFC and subsequent discussions with concerned Central Ministries/Departments, it has been decided to establish the National University of Rehabilitation and Disability Studies (NURDS) with adequate autonomy. Accordingly, draft NURDS Bill is being finalized for Cabinet's approval.

3. Swavlamban Health Insurance Scheme

This Health Insurance Scheme for Persons with Disabilities was launched by the Department in association with The New India Assurance Company Limited on 2nd October, 2015. The objective of the scheme is to provide affordable Health Insurance to Persons with Disabilities, i.e. Blindness, Low Vision, Leprosy-cured, Hearing Impairment, Locomotor (Physical) disability, Mental-Retardation and Mental Illness and to improve the general health condition and quality of life of PwDs.

The key features of this Health Insurance Scheme are; (i) The sum insured is of Rs.2.00 lakh on family floater for a period of 12 months and the family size coverage is up to 1+3, which can include spouse and up to two children. However, the Primary member should be a Person with Disabilities. (ii) The age group coverage is from 0-65 years and the Scheme is available for PwDs with family annual income of Rs.3.00 lakh and below on self declaration basis in application form. (iii) There are no premedical tests, the premium is Rs.3100 + Service Tax as applicable and only 10% premium will be collected from the insured; (iv) Premium contribution from insured PwDs will be around Rs.357 per person/family (including tax).



Inauguration of new Composite Regional Centre (CRC) by Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment at Rajnandgaon (Chhattisgarh) on 25.06.2016 in the presence of Hon. Chief Minister, Chhattisgarh



Hon'ble Minister, Social Justice & Empowerment distributing wheelchair during the ADIP Camp at Mizoram (Aizwal) on 3.11.2016 in the presence of Hon. Chief Minister, Mizoram

V. AIC INITIATIVES

**Accessible India Campaign
(सुगम्यभारत अभियान)**



Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi launched Accessible India Campaign (AIC) on 3rd December, 2015 for creating universal accessibility for Persons with Disabilities in Built Environment, Transport, and Information & Communication Technology (ICT) ecosystem. The campaign is based on the principles of Social Model of Disability, that disability is caused by the way society is organised, and not the person's limitations and impairments. The physical, social, structural and attitudinal barriers prevent People with Disabilities from participating equally in the socio-cultural and economic activities. A barrier-free environment facilitates equal participation in all the activities and promotes an independent and dignified way of life. The Campaign has the vision to build an all-inclusive society, in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of Persons with Disabilities, so that they can lead productive, safe and dignified lives.

In view of above, following are the objectives and targets for the AIC:-

I- Built Environment Accessibility



Enhancing the proportion of accessible Government Buildings

Target: Completion of accessibility audit of 25- 30 most important government buildings by December, 2017; making 50% of all the government buildings of NCT and all the State capitals fully accessible by December, 2018; completing accessibility audit of 50% of government buildings; and making them fully accessible in 10 most important cities/towns of States, not covered in targets (i) and (ii) by Phase-III December 2019, out of which:

- Completed accessibility audit of 1653 buildings identified by state government;
- 1469 access audit reports submitted to the State Nodal Officers;
- Proposal of 566 buildings received under Scheme arising out of PWD act 1995 (SIPDA);
- Sanction of Rs 4061.49 lakh issued for 225 buildings. (Funds for the rest of the cities will be released soon); and
- Around Rs.148 lakh released to auditors for conducting access-audit with more payment planned for disbursement.



II- Transportation System Accessibility

Enhancing proportion of accessible Airports:

Target: All international airports are to be made fully accessible by December, 2016 and domestic airports by March, 2018.

- 25 out of 32 international airports have been provided with accessibility features namely, ramps, accessible toilets, lifts with braille symbols and auditory signals.
- Accessibility features in all domestic airports will be provided by December, 2017.

Enhancing the Proportion of accessible railway-stations:



Target: A1, A & B categories of railway-stations are to be made fully accessible by December, 2016, and 50% of all railway stations are to be made fully accessible by March, 2018.

- All 75 'A1' category railway-stations; 305 out of 332 'A' category stations and 221 out of 302 'B' category railway-stations have been retrofitted with short-term accessibility features.



Enhancing the proportion of accessible Public Transport

Target: 10% of government owned public transport carriers are to be made fully accessible by March, 2018.

- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has issued instructions to the States and Executive Director of organisations of State Undertakings to ensure that 10% of Government owned Public Transport is made fully accessible to the PwDs by March, 2018.

III- Information and Communication System accessibility



Enhancing proportion of accessible documents and websites that meet internationally recognised accessibility standards

Target: At least 50% of Central and State Government websites are to be made accessible by March, 2017.

- Rs. 26, 18, 95,200/- is sanctioned to make 917 websites accessible, out of which Rs.10, 47, 58,080/- is disbursed, as the first instalment.
- 100 Government websites of 56 Ministries/Departments are mandated to be made accessible by MeitY.



Highlights

- Department Launched '*Sugamya Pustakalaya*'- an online library for Persons with Print disabilities, centred on achieving 'Universal Accessibility'.
- Department has organised awareness workshops in Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Jaipur, Raipur, Bhubaneswar, Chennai and Ranchi for providing an insight into the various contours of the Accessible India Campaign.
- A Motorcycle Rally - Ride 4 Accessibility was organised on July 24, 2016 at India Gate, Lodhi Garden, Vasant Kunj and South Extension, in which more than 600 motorbike riders and 6000 youth and students participated for creating mass awareness on Accessibility.
- We have committed ardent social media strategies to engage people in the campaign, and we are constantly augmenting our digital footprints.
- We have a dedicated website - www.accessibleindia.gov.in. whereby, we can be reached for recent updates and happenings.





VI. NATIONAL AWARDS

The National Awards are conferred on 3rd December every year on the occasion of 'International Day of Persons with Disabilities'. National Awards are given under fourteen broad categories, which are as under:-

- i. Best Employee/Self-Employed Person with Disabilities;
- ii. Best Employers and Placement Officers and/or Agencies;
- iii. Best Individual and Institution;
- iv. Role Model;
- v. Best Applied Research or Innovation or Product;
- vi. Outstanding Work in creation of barrier-free environment;
- vii. Best District in providing rehabilitation services;
- viii. Best State Channelizing Agency of the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC);
- ix. Outstanding Creative Adult Persons with Disabilities;
- x. Best Creative Child with Disabilities;
- xi. Best Braille Press;
- xii. Best Accessible Website;
- xiii. Best State; and
- xiv. Best Sports-persons with Disabilities.

For the National Awards 2016, 908 eligible applications were shortlisted on merit basis. The National Selection Committee was chaired by Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot. The Committee considered/approved the recommendations of the Screening Committees. The awards consisted of cash components, certificates, shield and medals. The total cash

component this year was Rs.56 Lakh while last year it was Rs.42 lakh. In all, 65 Awards and 13 Commendations were approved and conferred by the Hon'ble President of India on 3rd December, 2016 in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi.



VII. AUTONOMOUS ORGANIZATIONS

A. National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.

National Trust is a statutory body under the aegis of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, working for capacity building and rehabilitation of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation & Multiple Disabilities. National Trust performs its welfare role through Registered Organizations and legal role through the Local Level Committees (LLCs) constituted under the Chairmanship of District Magistrate/District Collector at District level.

In November, 2015, National Trust revamped all its schemes, and launched 10 new/revised schemes catering to the entire life span of Divyangjans with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Status of these 10 schemes with details of number of beneficiaries/centres approved, and financial support released to the Registered Organizations for running these schemes, is given on the website – www.thenationaltrust.gov.in.

Details of important achievements of National Trust for the last three months are given below:

- a) A Run/Marathon by the National Trust and Muskaan on 4th December, 2016 was organised at 6 AM at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi to enhance awareness about the abilities of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and for inclusion of the persons with intellectual disabilities, their parents, school teachers,.
- b) To evaluate the present schemes and programmes of National Trust and also to create a future roadmap for National Trust, a brain-storming

workshop, named MANTHAN involving many experts of the sector was organized on 16.12.2016.

- c) The Trust is engaged with states for organizing at least 2 camps to distribute Disability Certificates for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities before 31st March, 2017. Many States like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Gujharat, Haryana and Jharkhand have already organized these camps. Remaining States will be organizing these camps after Assembly/Panchayat elections.
- d) For making available information on the schemes and programmes of National Trust easy on the smart phones, a mobile app called "**National Trust**" was launched by Hon'ble Minister, SJ&E on 30.12.2016. This app has proved to be extremely beneficial to the parents of children with intellectual disabilities.

B. ARTIFICIAL LIMBS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION OF INDIA (ALIMCO)

Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) is a Schedule 'C' Miniratna Category II Central Public Sector Enterprise. It is 100% owned by Govt. of India Central Public Sector Enterprise with an objective of benefiting the disabled persons to the maximum extent possible by manufacturing Rehabilitation Aids for persons with disabilities and by promoting, encouraging and developing the availability, use, supply and distribution of Artificial Limbs and other Rehabilitation aids to the disabled persons of the country. It has four Auxiliary Production Centres (AAPCs) located in Bhubaneswar (Orissa), Jabalpur (MP), Bengaluru (Karnataka), and Chanalon (Punjab). The Corporation has four Marketing Centres at New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai & Hyderabad and one Outreach Centre at Guwahati.

The Corporation is the only manufacturing Company producing various types of assistive devices under one roof to serve all types of disabilities across the country.

The Corporation has covered 2,05,614 PwDs during 2015-16 and 1,95,690 PwDs during the current year 2016-17 (upto 31.01.2017) under ADIP Scheme through 1918 camps (2015-16) and 911 camps (2016-17 upto 31.01.2017).

Modernization of ALIMCO

Order for Modernization was issued on 12.08.2015; regarding modernization of ALIMCO with a total cost of Rs.286.00 crore for which Rs.200.00 crore will be given by the Ministry. Funds to the tune of Rs.3.58 crore were released to the Corporation during 2015-16 and Rs.5.00 crore during 2016-17. After completion of the Modernization Plan of ALIMCO, the company is expected to touch a turnover of

Rs.700 crore by 2018-19 as against the turnover of Rs.162.70 crore during 2014-15. The purpose of the project is to serve higher number of beneficiaries with State of art of products. It is expected that on completion of the proposed project, the Corporation will be expected to serve around six lakh beneficiaries across the country as against 1.57 lakh beneficiaries currently being served by the Corporation.

MoUs/agreements signed:-

The Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), a Central Public Sector undertaking under the Ministry, has taken the following major steps with clear emphasis on “Make in India” mission:

(i) Agreement for Advanced Mobility Aids with M/s Motivation, U.K:

M/s. Motivation India has entered into a Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement with ALIMCO for various models of Manual Wheelchairs. While the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed with M/s Motivation India on 22.04.2015, the ToT agreement has been signed on 21.12.2016. On signing the MoU, ALIMCO will not only be able to distribute these wheelchairs to Persons with Disabilities in India, but also be able to export 10,000 wheelchairs every year to other countries.

(ii) Agreement for Artificial Limbs with M/s Ottobock, Germany:

In order to facilitate manufacture of high quality artificial limbs in India and their availability to Indian PwDs, ALIMCO have signed an agreement for ToT with the world leaders in manufacturing Prosthetics & Orthotics (Artificial Hands and Legs), M/s Ottobock, Germany on 20.05.2015.

C. NATIONAL HANDICAPPED FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NHFDC)

National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation (NHFDC) is a Not for Profit Company incorporated on 24th January, 1997 under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956, and is working as an Apex Corporation for the benefit of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). NHFDC is wholly owned by Govt. of India and has an authorized share capital of Rs.400.00 crore and paid up share capital of Rs.342.58 Crore. NHFDC has a registered office in Faridabad and corporate office in Delhi.

NHFDC considers concessional loans to Indian Citizens with 40% or more disability and age above 18 years. There is no upper age limit for PwDs to avail concessional loan from NHFDC.

The progress, made by the Corporation in last 3 financial years is summarized as under:-

(Rs. in Crore)						
Financial Year	Self-Employment		Scholarships		Skill Development	
	Amount	No. of PwDs	Amount	No. of PwDs	Amount	No. of PwDs
2014-15	101.49	14703	18.08	3000	11.55	10908
2015-16	131.08	20552	19.73	2500	28.16	17637
2016-17 (Upto 31.01.2017)	46.38	10175	4.20	573	15.29	13010
Total	278.95	45430	42.01	6073	55.00	41555

The progress made by the corporation in last 3 years (including current financial year) is remarkable and significant. During this period Rs.278.95 crore were released by NHFDC for 45430 PwDs.

The corporation has done excellently well in skill training of PwDs by providing skill training to 41555 PwDs in last three years (including current financial year) whereas it was only 7361 in earlier 05 years (2009-10 to 2013-14).

NHFDC excelled in distributing scholarships to 6073 students for higher studies in last three years (including current financial year).

The corporation has been rated excellent by Department of Public Enterprises for 2014-2015 and 2015-16.

D. REHABILITATION COUCIL OF INDIA (RCI)

The Rehabilitation Council on India was initially set up as a Society under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 *vide* Resolution No 22-17/83-HW.III dated 31st January, 1986. It was accorded a Statutory status by an Act of Parliament, namely, the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992 (No. 34 of 1992). The Act was amended by Parliament in 2000 (No.38 of 2000) to make it more broad-based. The Council is mandated to regulate and monitor the training programmes for professionals and personnel in the field of rehabilitation and special education, promote research in rehabilitation and special education and maintain a Central Rehabilitation Register.

During the last 3 years, the Council has included four new programmes of Integrated Education of B.A./B.Sc./B.Com & B.Ed. in Special Education. The Council has also developed following four new programmes, which are being implemented through the National Institute of Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities

(NIEPMD), Chennai: (1) M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (ASD), (2) M.Ed. Spl. Ed. (Multiple Disabilities), (3) B.Ed. Spl. Ed. (Deaf-blind), and (4) D.Ed. Spl. Ed. (Multiple Disabilities) on pilot basis.

The Council has developed Courses for Care Givers of 3 months and 6 months duration for the National Trust. In addition, Certificate Course in Care Giving of 10 months duration is also being offered by the Council through its approved institutions.

During the last three years, all the pending registration of the Council has been disposed of and 16474 professionals and 13032 personnel have been registered in the Central Rehabilitation Register by increasing the number of registration from 90,553 to 1,20,059. During this period, the system of receipt and payment has been made online through NEFT/RTGS. In order to avoid pendency and delay and to cater to more and more professionals, the Continuing Rehabilitation Education (CRE) programmes, which were earlier centralized in the Council, have been decentralized at the level of National Institutes of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DPEwD).

The Council has established Centre of Disability Studies in some Universities and also pursuing to establish more number of such Centres, particularly in North-East and with those Universities, which are undertaking the Council's distance education programmes. The number of 7 Zonal Coordination Committees, established to act as advisory body and organize seminars/workshops/conferences, etc. for creating awareness about the activities of the Council, the Council has decided to increase the number to 14 to reach far-flung and unreached areas.

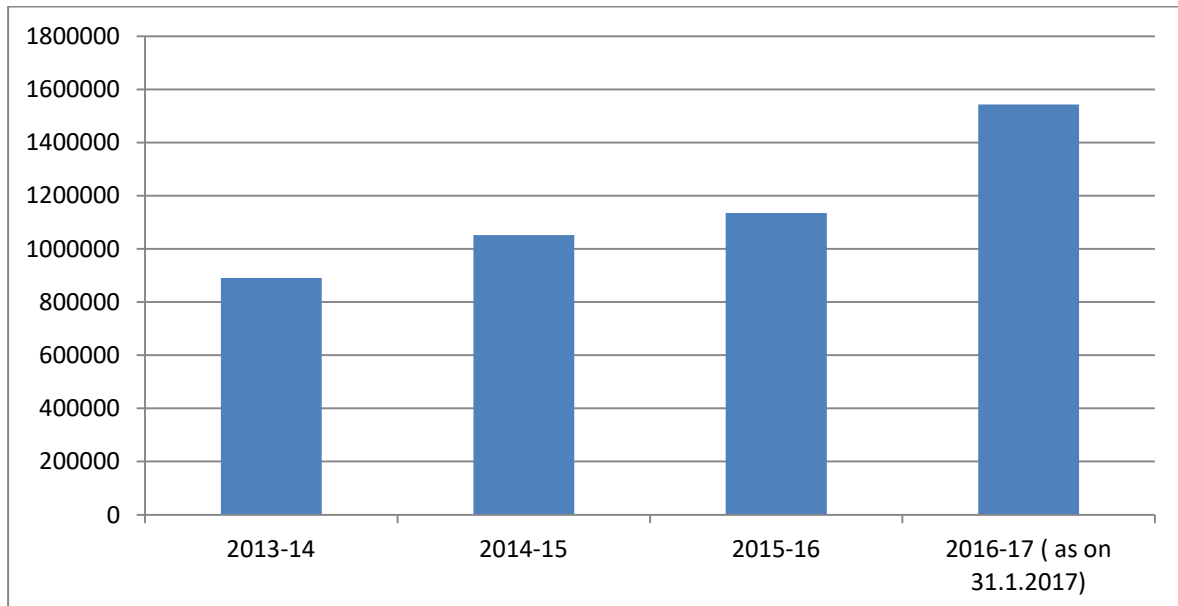
E. NATIONAL INSTITUTES

In order to meet the requirements of specific disabilities, Govt. of India has established seven National Institutes (NIs) in specific disabilities under the Department. These are engaged in Human Resource Development, providing Rehabilitation Services to the Persons with Disabilities and Research & Development. During the last three years and current year, details regarding number of beneficiaries covered by National Institutes, is as under:-

S.No	Name of the Institute	Number of beneficiaries			
		2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17 (upto 31.1.2017)
1	National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), Dehradun	214990	220177	237259	343411
2	National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (NILD) Kolkata	51076	194691	204088	145697

3	Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Persons with Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AYJNISHD), Mumbai	96980	94740	86287	231009
4	National Institute for Empowerment of Persons Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID), Secunderabad	163268	162640	110362	222511
5	Swami Vivekanand National Institute for the Rehabilitation Training and Research (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack	220939	215963	267793	248926
6	Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (PDUNIPPD) New Delhi	75690	74837	93157	107231
7	National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai	67298	88464	135943	244122
	Total	890241	1051512	1134889	1542907

Consolidated number of Beneficiaries of all National Institutes



- In last three years, there is a 73.31% increase in the number of beneficiaries to whom the National Institutes provide rehabilitation services.
- The financial allocations to National Institutes has been increased by 76% from 2013-14 in the current year.
- Four new Composite Regional Centres at Rajnandgaon (Chattishgarh), Nellore (Andhra Pradesh), Davangere (Karnataka) and Nagpur (Maharashtra) have been set up.

- In Aizwal, a Disability Study Centre is being set up by NILD.

The basic details of National Institutes, their Regional Centres and Composite Regional Centres are as follows:

S.No.	National Institute	Year of establishment	Regional Centre (RCs)/Regional Chapters, if any	Composite Regional Centre, if any under the National Institute
1.	National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Visual Disabilities (NIEPVD), Dehradun	1979	One RC (Chennai) Two Regional Chapter (Kolkata & Secunderabad)	One (Sundernagar)
2.	Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Persons with Speech and Hearing Disabilities (AYNISHD), Mumbai	1983	Four RCs (Kolkata, Secunderabad, Delhi & Bhubaneswar)	Two (Bhopal & Ahmedabad)
3	National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (NILD), Kolkata	1978	Two RCs (Dehradun & Aizwal)	One (Patna)
4.	Swami Vivekanand National Institute for the Rehabilitation, Training and Research (SVNIRTAR), Cuttack	1975	None	Two (Guwahati & Rajnandgaon)
5.	Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (PDUNIPPD), New Delhi	1960	One RC (Secunderabad)	Two (Lucknow & Srinagar)
6.	National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPMD)	1984	Three RCs (Delhi, Mumbai & Kolkata) and a Model Special Education Centre at New Delhi	Two (Nellore and Davengere)

	Secunderabad			
7.	National Institute for Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD), Chennai	2005	None	Two (Kozhikode & Nagpur)

F. Indian Sign Language Research & Training Centre (ISLRTC)

The Government has approved establishment of Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, under the aegis of this Department. Order to this effect has been issued by the Department on 28th September, 2015. The main objective of the Centre will be to develop manpower for using, teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language. Presently, the Centre is functioning from the premises of Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya National Institute for Persons with Physical Disabilities (Divyangjan), (PDUNIPPD), 4, Vishnu Digamber Marg, New Delhi -110002.

ISLRTC has been registered as a Society on 01.02.2016. Order for creation of 33 posts has been issued on 06.02.2016. Against 33 posts, sanctioned for the Centre, seventeen have joined till 31.01.2017. First Batch of Diploma course in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI) has commenced w.e.f. 28.10.2016 with intake capacity of 15 students. The second batch has started from 14.12.2016. Action is under process to prepare the Sign Language Dictionary of about 6000 words. ISLRTC has also planned to prepare a directory of ISL interpreters in India. Office accommodation for the Centre has been taken on rent (6700 sq. feet) in Okhla Phase-II, New Delhi. The matter has been taken up with CPWD, New Delhi for furnishing the space. It is expected that the Centre will shift to the new premises in April, 2017.

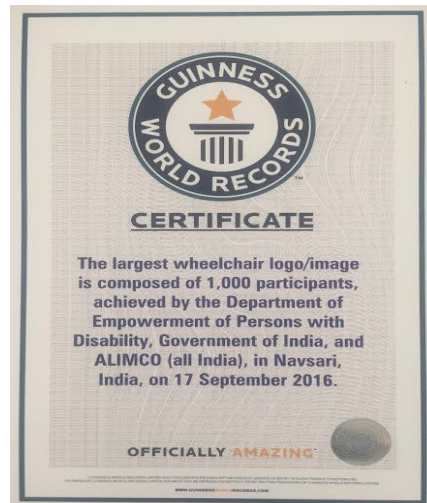
VIII. MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Mega Camp for distribution of aids and appliances for Divyangjan under ADIP Scheme was held at Varanasi on 22nd January, 2016 in the august presence of Hon'ble Prime Minister. Aids and appliances were distributed to more than 10000 Divyangjan beneficiaries.
- Another Mega camp for distribution of Assistive devices and aids to Divyangjan and other benefits worth Rs.11.56 crore was held on 17th September, 2016 at Navasari, Guajrat. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi graced the occasion as Chief Guest. This was 159th ADIP Camp (so far the biggest), in which 11330 Divyangjan beneficiaries were benefitted.



Hon'ble Prime Minister distributing Aids and Assistive Devices to the Divyangjan in Samajik Adhikarita Shivir at Navsari, Gujarat on 17th September 2016.

- During the Navsari Camp, 3 Guinness World Records were created jointly by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) and ALIMCO.
 - **First record, created by Biggest Wheelchair Logo/Image by 1000 Divyangjan, which made the event historical.**



Second world record created by fitting 1200 Hearing Aids to 600 persons (1200 hearing aids) within 8 hours at a single location.



- **Third world record created by lighting most oil lamps simultaneously at a single venue by Divyangjans.**



- **Assistive devices and aids and others benefits were provided to Divyangjan worth Rs.9.26 crore at the Mega Camp held at Vadodara, Gujarat on 22.10.2016.**

Hon'ble Prime Minister graced the occasion as Chief Guest, in which 10578 Divyangjan beneficiaries had been benefitted.



Hon'ble Prime Minister distributing the Aids and Assistive Devices to the Divyangjan in Samajik Adhikarita Shivar at Vadodara, Gujarat on 22nd October 2016.

SVNIRTAR, Cuttack

➤ **RECL Project:**

Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (RECL) has sanctioned financial assistance under CSR to SVNIRTAR of Rs.296.00 lakh (Rupees two crore ninety six lakh only) for implementing the project "Setting up Modular Operation Theatre and procurement of various Medical Equipment to improve Medical Services for Persons with Disabilities in SVNIRTAR through modern technology.

➤ **Hydrotherapy Unit:**

This type of treatment is unique in Eastern India. The unit is functioning after inauguration by the Hon'ble Union Minister (SJ&E) on 13th March, 2016.

➤ **Dormitory:** The Dormitory constructed by CPWD is able to accommodate 48 patients and their attendants. The Dormitory is functioning after inauguration by the Hon'ble Union Minister (SJ&E) on 13th March, 2016.

➤ **Satellite Centre, Balangir:**

The Institute has set up a Satellite Centre at Balangir District of Odisha w.e.f 18th August 2015 to extend its rehabilitation services at Western Odisha. Physiotherapy & Occupational therapy services have already been resumed in the Centre. Now, the centre is functioning from in a temporary building, adjacent to CDMO Office, Balangir which is provided by the District Administration, Government of Odisha. The construction work has already been awarded to CPWD with requisite advance after laying of Foundation Stone for Satellite Centre, Balangir, Odisha by Hon'ble Union Minister (SJ&E) on 13th March, 2016.

- **CRC, Rajnandgaon:** Composite Regional Centre (CRC) for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), Rajnandgaon is an initiative of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India. Composite Regional Centre, Rajnandgaon has been inaugurated on 25th June, 2016 to serve all categories of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in and around Chhattisgarh with tripartite objectives of training, research and services in the field of disability rehabilitation and is functioning under the Administrative control of SVNIRTAR.

➤ **Mega Surgical Camps:**

In view of the visit of Hon'ble Minister, SJ&E on 13.03.2016, a mega surgical camp was organized at the Institute, in which around 150 patients, mostly from tribal districts of Odisha, were assessed for surgical intervention. The surgery of all these patients has been conducted from 09th to 13th March, 2016. The Institute has organized this event with free of cost surgery and Medicines for patients along with free transport, accommodation and food facilities for patients and their attendants for next 15 days.

NIEPMD, Chennai

- NIEPMD with over 150 partner organisations, annually conducts over 200 short term training programmes of over 85,000 stakeholders and professionals with state of art clinical and rehabilitation services, research and development activities; it is attracting internship partners from over 45 nationally and internationally reputed institutions. Flagship programmes in special education at D. Ed, B. Ed and M. Ed level have been launched in the area of multiple disabilities, deaf-blindness, autism, cerebral palsy, etc; with HRD programmes. Several flagship programmes have received mass and media recognition; and are now being looked forward for participation, which includes *National Therapeutics Sports Festival; National Therapeutic Yoga and Youth Festival; Ability Utsav and Job Festival; National Therapeutic Arts and Culture Festivals*. It is today offering consultancy and mentoring services to over

23,000 visitors and 148 HRD students i.e. estimated to grow in arithmetical proportions over the coming years.

NILD, Kolkata

- NILD has applied for Patents applied for 04 numbers of products developed by the Institute indigenously in the following fields:
 - Intelligent Exoskeleton for Paraplegia
 - Microprocessor Controlled Ankle Foot Prosthesis
 - Digital Orthopaedic insole
 - eWalk NILD (Electronic Walk Way for both Non Impaired and Locomotor Disabled)

- NILD has also initiated in the North East Region a Composite Regional Center at Tripura, a Regional Center at Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh and a Centre for Disabilities Study at Aizwal, Mizoram in the premises of Mizoram University.
