

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. - 1489

TO BE ANSWERED ON- 09/12/2025

BENEFITS TO WEAKER SECTIONS

1489. Shri Babu Singh Kushwaha:

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the fact that Persons with disabilities, Senior citizens, Scheduled Castes and other disadvantaged sections are facing difficulties in getting benefits of welfare schemes like pension distribution, certificate generation, availability of assistive devices and rehabilitation services in Uttar Pradesh and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Union Government has recently undertaken any review of social justice schemes being run in various States to ensure progress, transparency and access to beneficiaries particularly in Uttar Pradesh, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government proposes any new initiatives in the near future to further strengthen digital services and social security programmes for the disabled, senior citizens and weaker sections?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B L VERMA)

- (a) & (b) Relief to the disabled is a State subject. Hence all the efforts and details of Uttar Pradesh Government in terms of the implementation status of welfare schemes like pension distribution, disability certificates, assistive devices, and rehabilitation services to persons with

disabilities, senior citizens, scheduled castes and other disadvantaged sections is maintained by the State government.

As per available records in the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), over 16 lakh UDID cards have been generated and issued in State of Uttar Pradesh as of date. For persons with disabilities, under the ADIP Scheme, modern aids and appliances are provided through implementing agencies and permanent Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendras including in nine (9) PMDKs in Uttar Pradesh. From 2022–2025, ADIP camps in Uttar Pradesh utilized over Rs.205 crore across 859 camps benefitting 1.4 Lakh beneficiaries. For 2022–2025, RVY (Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana) camps in Uttar Pradesh benefitted 68,967 senior citizens across 252 camps. An amount of Rs.46.44 crore stands disbursed under the Scholarship Scheme of DEPwD to 8918 students with disabilities in the State of Uttar Pradesh from 2023-24 to 2025-26. There are three (3) Cross Disability Early Intervention Centres (CDEICs) in Uttar Pradesh providing early screening, therapy and counselling for young children.

The Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) implements schemes like PM-AJAY, scholarships, free coaching, SHRESHTA, SMILE etc. In respect of senior citizens DoSJE also supplements the State Government's efforts through its Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY) components, under which 50 old-age homes are operational in Uttar Pradesh as on date.

The schemes are regularly reviewed by DEPwD with all concerned officials of different State departments. ADIP, Scholarship, DDRS, IPSrC, SMILE etc. are some such regularly monitored schemes.

(c) To strengthen digital services and social security programmes several initiatives are taking place. MeitY's SugamyaWeb accessibility testing tool in line with WCAG 2.1 AA, is helping accessibility audits and certifications of Government/private websites faster, Bhashini' initiative is helping to enhance multilingual access to e-services. DoSJE has launched a Senior Citizen Portal as a one-stop digital platform providing information on all welfare schemes, services, and grievance redressal mechanisms. ALIMCO under DEPwD is implementing AI Accessibility Mission and Mission AI-Driven Assistive Technology. National Scholarship Portal (NSP) under DEPwD has been strengthened with OTR, bio and face authentication, and NSP–UDID portal integration.
