

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1252**  
ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025

**Education for Children with Special Needs (CwSN)**

**1252. Shri Y S Avinash Reddy:**

Will the Minister of **EDUCATION** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of specific initiatives implemented by the Government to support education of Children with Special Needs (CwSN) in the country;
- (b) the number of Government schools that have implemented special education programmes along with the total number of CwSN enrolled in these schools across the country State/UT wise;
- (c) the details of training and resources provided to the teachers and staff in the said schools to support CwSN; and
- (d) whether any additional measures are taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to take to enhance the inclusion and quality of education for CwSN in the country and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)**

(a) to (d): The Government is fully committed to ensuring that Children with Special Needs (CwSN), as mentioned in Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016, have access to quality and inclusive education. Education being in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, both the Central and State/UT Governments play an important role in this endeavor. Under the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is in alignment with the recommendations of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, there is a dedicated Inclusive Education (IE) component for CwSN. Financial assistance is provided for the following interventions namely,

- Identification and assessment camps,
- Provision of aids, appliances, and assistive devices,
- Transportation, scribe and escort allowance,
- Braille and large-print books,
- Stipends for girls with special needs,
- Sports & Exposure visits for CwSN
- Teaching-learning materials/ Resource Package etc.
- Training and capacity building of special educators and general teachers.
- Resource support towards the salary of special educators.

A statement showing State/UT-wise government and government-aided schools and enrolment of CwSN in these schools as per UDISE+ 2024-25, is at **Annexure**.

The Government is firmly committed to strengthening inclusive education and continues to prioritise the welfare of CwSN through a wide range of targeted interventions, policy measures, and capacity-building initiatives.

Through Samagra Shiksha, continuous professional development programs are conducted for teachers and educators as a part of in-service training and awareness and sensitization programs for head teachers, parents on inclusive education. National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed online teacher training modules under NISHTHA for Elementary, Secondary and Foundational Literacy & Numeracy (FLN) levels equipping general teachers to address diverse learning needs of CwSN.

Further, a five-day capacity building programme, developed by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), for Training of Trainers to deliver inclusive education was organized by NCERT-NISHTHA in 2023-24, to sensitize and train teachers and other functionaries of inclusive schools to address the learning needs of CwSN. An amount of Rs. 23.42 crore has been approved by the Project Approval Board (PAB) under Samagra Shiksha for FY 2025-26 to various States/UTs for the capacity-building programme targeting 93,345 general teachers. Additionally, in-service cross-disability training to special educators and block resource persons for CwSN is also provided.

CBSE has also promoted inclusive teaching through capacity-building programs, manuals, and a dedicated Handbook of Inclusive Education, offering guidance on curriculum adaptation, teaching strategies and alternative assessments for CwSN.

Further, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), an autonomous body under DoSEL, has integrated two dedicated credits on inclusive education for CwSN within the Four-Year Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP) for pre-service teacher education. This is aimed at ensuring inclusion, equal participation of CwSN in regular schools, and equipping future teachers to adapt teaching-learning processes to address varied learning needs, including those related to learning disabilities.

With a view to monitor CwSN and facilitate early screening and intervention, the Government through NCERT has developed 'PRASHAST' (Pre-Assessment Holistic Screening Tool); a mobile app to digitally screen students for possible disabilities at school level.

A dedicated channel for the hearing impaired has been launched under PM e-Vidya initiative on 6<sup>th</sup> December, 2024. The PM e-Vidya 24\*7 DTH Channel No.31 telecasts learning content in Indian Sign Language (ISL) for the benefit of the hearing impaired. Currently, the channel telecasts NCERT school curriculum (Classes 1-5, 6 &7), concept videos, recreational content, live sessions with Experts, Teachers, Special Educators, Counsellors, Physiotherapists and Clinical Psychologists on inclusive pedagogy, health and well-being of CwSN, yoga and sports event such as the Khelo India Para games, basic courses on ISL for first responders and general population, series on Deaf achievers etc.

Government has notified the Accessibility Code for Educational Institutions on January 10th, 2024 and the same has been notified in the Rules of RPwD Act 2016 on 20th June, 2024. The Code examines the physical barriers and information & communication barriers of access to school facilities for CwSN.

NCERT conducts a *live interaction series, titled, "Teaching Learning Interventions for Inclusive Classrooms"*. NCERT textbooks have been converted into ISL related to curricular content for classes I to VII, glossary words in psychology, history, geography, urdu, economics have been produced and are being continually disseminated through DIKSHA portal and PM eVidya DTH TV Channels, on regular basis to ensure coherent access of these e-Contents. A 10,500 words ISL dictionary uploaded on DIKSHA in collaboration with ISLRTC.

In addition, CBSE being sensitive to the needs of disabled students provides several exemptions/concessions to CWSN as defined in The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act – 2016.

NIOS is the first board in the country to offer Indian Sign Language (ISL) as a first language subject for deaf learners, enabling easier knowledge acquisition and comprehension through the use of sign language. To further expand educational opportunities for persons with disabilities, a Tripartite MoU was executed between NIOS, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), and NCERT in June 2025 to provide educational opportunities to divyangjans through NIOS programmes (Open Basic Education, Academic & Vocational) especially to those unable to access formal schooling. Under the MoU, 308 NGOs/Special Schools will be accredited as NIOS study centres to conduct admissions and examinations for Divyangjan learners as per NIOS norms. Additionally, NIOS signed an MoU with the Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) in July 2023 to share expertise and resources for the standardization of ISL and the development of high-quality ISL educational modules, especially in STEM subjects, to improve learning outcomes for deaf children.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (D) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1252 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2025 ASKED BY SHRI Y S AVINASH REDDY, HON'BLE MP REGARDING 'EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS (CwSN)'**

**State/UT-wise government and government-aided schools and enrolment of CwSN in these schools as per UDISE+ 2024-25**

S. No.	States/UTs	No. of Schools	CwSN Enrolment
	India	1092671	1905946
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	337	719
2	Andhra Pradesh	45724	74427
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2630	2702
4	Assam	46328	52565
5	Bihar	77032	172486
6	Chandigarh	125	3390
7	Chhattisgarh	49240	68307
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	369	1162
9	Delhi	2919	31143
10	Goa	1338	4365
11	Gujarat	40160	55058
12	Haryana	14342	18251
13	Himachal Pradesh	14725	5622
14	Jammu & Kashmir	18786	17242
15	Jharkhand	36943	45021
16	Karnataka	55749	71229
17	Kerala	11972	108343
18	Ladakh	850	517
19	Lakshadweep	36	190
20	Madhya Pradesh	92800	133704
21	Maharashtra	89290	205410
22	Manipur	3537	3944
23	Meghalaya	11961	2505
24	Mizoram	2849	3236
25	Nagaland	1936	902
26	Odisha	54493	85101
27	Puducherry	452	1022
28	Punjab	19680	49569
29	Rajasthan	70155	58385
30	Sikkim	873	936
31	Tamil Nadu	45880	128507
32	Telangana	30636	56337
33	Tripura	4229	3122
34	Uttar Pradesh	145434	291645
35	Uttarakhand	16633	3635
36	West Bengal	82228	145247

