

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
(DIVYANGJAN)

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1742
TO BE ANSWERED ON – 10/02/2026

CENTRAL SCHEMES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

1742. SHRI MUHAMMED HAMDULLAH SAYEED:

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

- (a) the Central schemes for persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) being implemented in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep;
- (b) the number of beneficiaries covered under these schemes during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has assessed the adequacy of identification, disability certification, accessibility and delivery of benefits to differently abled persons in the islands, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether any gaps or challenges have been identified in effective implementation due to the geographical isolation of Lakshadweep and if so, the steps taken to address them; and
- (e) the funds allocated, released and utilised for the welfare of persons with disabilities in Lakshadweep during the said period?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI B. L. VERMA)

(a) to (e) : Relief to the disabled is a State subject by the virtue of entry 9 of the State List of the Constitution of India. the Government of India has undertaken several initiatives for the empowerment, upliftment and welfare of Divyangjans. The Government has enacted the Rights

of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 for empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The RPwD Act, 2016, effective from 19.04.2017, expanded disabilities from 7 to 21, and ensures rights like equality, education, employment and accessibility.

In pursuance of the provisions of this act, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) supports the Divyangjan's welfare, skill development, rehabilitation through its major initiatives and schemes which inter alia include: Assistance to Persons with Disabilities for Purchase/Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP) Scheme, Deendayal Divyangjan Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), Scholarship Schemes for Students with Disabilities, and SIPDA-Scheme for implementation of RPwD Act, 2016 comprising National Action Plan for Skill Development, Unique Disability Identity Card (UDID) and Creation of Barrier Free Environment etc. All these schemes are demand driven in nature.

The identification of disability through certification and the subsequent delivery of benefits to all 21 categories of disabilities in India is largely managed through the UDID Portal (<https://swavlambancard.gov.in/>). The UDID Portal has been instituted where hospitals authorized by respective State/UT Governments have been on boarded for issuance of disability certificates and Unique Disability Identity Card (UDID) to eligible Divyangjan. It is intended to be a single document for all government schemes, aimed at eliminating the need for separate, repeated documentation for different benefits. As per the data available on the UDID Portal the number of UDID Cards issued in Lakshadweep in last three years and current year are as below:-

S.No.	FY	No. of UDID cards
1.	2022-23	17
2.	2023-24	70
3.	2024-25	186
4.	2025-26 (as on 06.02.2026)	254

During the last three years and the current year, details of beneficiaries covered under the ADIP Scheme are as follows:-

S.No.	FY	Number of beneficiaries	Fund Utilized (Rs.in Lakhs)
1.	2022-23	-	-
2.	2023-24	15	1.66
3.	2024-25	257	18.83
4.	2025-26 (as on 06.02.2026)	17	1.33
	Total	289	21.82
