

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6067

ANSWERED ON:05.05.2005

RELAXATION IN NORMS IN PURCHASE OF AIDS AND APPLIANCES

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba; Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to relax the norms for the scheme under which assistance is provided to handicapped for purchase and fitting of various types of aids and appliances as reported in the Hindu dated April 9, 2005:

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to implement the said decision?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details of modifications made under the Scheme for purchase of aids and appliances are given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The revised scheme has already come to force from 1.04.2005.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.6067 for 5-5-2005 by Shri Ravi Prakash Verma and Shri Anandrao V. Adsul, regarding relaxation in norms in purchase of aids and appliances.

Subject Modifications

i) Raising of income limit The income limit for eligibility has been enhanced for 100% concession to Rs.6,500/- per month and for 50% concession to Rs.10,000/- per month

ii) Distribution of Assistive The motorised tricycles for persons with devices costing more than Rs.6,000/- locomotor disability and software for visually handicapped persons using computers which may cost more than Rs. 6,000/- are permitted. The extent of the subsidy would be Rs. 6000/- only .

iii) Monitoring and evaluation 2% of annual allocation has been earmarked for monitoring and evaluation expenses.

iv) Procedure for receipt of grant-in : The implementing agencies will be requested to keep -aid by an implementing agency manuals/literature on main features , maintenance and upkeep of devices , one year free maintenance would be provided by them for assistive devices .

v) Aids and Appliances to be provided Braille writing equipments including Brailers, to Visually Handicapped Braille shorthand machines , typewriters for blind students from the X class instead of class XII .

vi) increase in coverage of girl child/women children/women . At least 25% of the beneficiaries should be girl