

सं./ No. 07-02/2024-DD-III-Part(1)
भारत सरकार / Government of India
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय/Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग
Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

5th Floor, Pt. Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan,
CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-11000
Dated: 11th March, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Forwarding minutes of Seventh Meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Disability held on 15.12.2024 at DAIC Janpath, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India –reg.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject cited above and to enclose here with a copy of the minutes of the **Seventh Meeting** of the **Central Advisory Board on Disability** held under the Chairpersonship of Hon'ble Minister Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of India on 15.12.2024 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), Janpath, New Delhi with a request to submit the Action Taken Report (ATR) in respect of the concerned recommendations at the earliest to the undersigned.

2. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.


(देबाला भट्टाचार्य/Debala Bhattacharjee)
अवर सचिव, भारत सरकार
Under Secretary to the Government of India
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To,

All the members of the Central Advisory Board on Disability

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister, SJ & E
2. PS to Hon'ble, MoS (BLV), SJ&E
3. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, DEPwD
4. PPS to JS(RS)/JS(MKN)/JS(FA)/DDG, DEPwD

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 7th CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD ON DISABILITY 15th DECEMBER 2024

7th Meeting of the Central Advisory Board was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister, Dr. Virendra Kumar on 15th December, 2024 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi. List of participants is at **Annexure I**.

2. The 7th meeting of Central Advisory Board on disability started with National Anthem followed by lighting of lamp by the dignitaries.

3. Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, DEPwD welcomed Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment cum-Chairperson of the Central Advisory Board. He also welcomed other members of the Board including Hon'ble Ministers from Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, representatives from various Central/ state Ministries/ Departments/ organizations and non-official members.

4.1 In his introductory remarks, Secretary DEPwD appreciated the work done by Central and state ministries in ensuring the implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

4.2 At the outset, Secretary DEPwD informed about the significant increase of footprint of the Department across the country. He expressed his gratitude towards the States for facilitating lands to build CRCs. He highlighted the development of more than 65 Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendras (PMDK) by ALIMCO in last one year, through which PwDs can get Aids and Assistive Devices on-the spot under ADIP scheme of the Department. He informed the delegates that ALIMCO is targeting to build more PMDK across the country with a focus on developing products/devices made in India through the support of academic institutes like the Indian Institute of Technology, AIIMS, NITs, etc.

4.3 The Secretary, DEPwD requested the States to explore possibilities to provide space to ALIMCOs in state run hospital with good footfall for building full-fledged PMDK

in the hospital premises to cater to the persons with disabilities visiting the hospitals for disability treatment or certification.

[Action: State Governments]

4.4 He also requested state governments to utilize the database on the Arjun portal of PwDs who received Assistive devices under ADIP scheme. The States may also push their data of PwDs who have been given assistive devices on the Arjun Portal so that duplication of beneficiaries can be avoided. He stressed that the API of the Arjun Portal is open to all States/NGOs etc. to mitigate the duplicity.

[Action- State Governments]

4.5 Further, Secretary emphasised on one of the Agenda points of the CAB, i.e., understanding of the Master Circular on Reservation and Promotion in government establishments / PSE sector. With a request to the members of the CAB to study the document for uniform and effective implementation of the reservation policy of PwBDs., he offered to conduct training of state government officials on implementing the reservation and promotion of PwDs as per the Master circular encompassing CCPD and DoPT guidelines.

[Action- State Governments/ DEPwD]

4.6 Secretary, DEPwD also solicited attention on the new Assessment Guidelines and RPwD (Amendment) Rules 2024 issued by the Department which have simplified the UDID rules like allowing private practitioners on the board of Doctors.

4.7 Secretary also made a special reference to the major cases of Sickle cell disease in Madhya Pradesh and informed the Hon'ble Minister of Madhya Pradesh that permanent certificates are now being issued for Persons with Sickle cell disease which will benefit the tribal population of Madhya Pradesh. Secretary DEPwD even recognised the lack of awareness among doctors about disability assessments and shared that the Department has conducted training of more than 2000 doctors on the new guidelines of assessment of disabilities. Secretary DEPwD also requested states to release funds to

Government Hospitals for hiring private doctors and ensure availability of staff and timely issuing of UDID cards.

4.8 Secretary DEPwD appreciated the progress of states as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court's Order in the Seema Girijalal case where 80% gap w.r.t the implementation of various provisions of the RPwD Act 2016 has been fulfilled by the States.

4.9 Secretary DEpWd mentioned that Under Accessible India Campaign, the process of release of 2nd Instalment being simplified so that funds can be released smoothly to the state governments. Referring to Rajeev Ratouri Case, Secretary DEPwD highlighted the order of Supreme Court to DEPwD for finalising the non-negotiable aspects of accessibility and separate those from the aspirational ones.

4.10 Secretary DEpWd further emphasized the importance of education amongst children with special needs. He referred to the Andhra Pradesh Samagra Shikhsha Project under which the deaf and blind students are taught computers from the 1st Grade itself, so that they can easily blend into the mainstream education. He urged CAB members to encourage multilateral collaboration and requested states to send youth with disabilities to utilize the facilities at Centre for Disability Sports, Gwalior for training at a free of cost boarding and lodging.

4.11 Referring to the Divya Kala Melas conducted by DEPwD for enhancing opportunities for Entrepreneurs with Disabilities, Secretary DEPwD referred to various state level festivals like Hornbill festivals of Nagaland that are conducted by state governments and requested state governments to encourage PwD participation in their respective festivals.

[Action: State Governments]

4.12 Secretary DEPwD concluded his address welcoming all delegates and thanking them for their presence.

5. Shri Rajeev Sharma, Joint Secretary, DEPwD and Member Secretary DEPwD made a brief presentation on each of the agenda points for deliberations of the Central Advisory Board. A copy of the presentation is at **Annexure II**. The following agenda items were placed for discussion for the Central Advisory Board:-

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the sixth CAB meeting held on 27.12.2023
2. Action Taken Report on Sixth CAB Recommendations
3. Supreme Court matter: WP (C) 29329 of 2021 Seema Girija Lal vs Union of India
4. Status of implementation of Accessible India Campaign
5. Status of implementation of the RPwD (Amendment) Rules, 2017 notified vide G.S.R. 649(E) dated 16.10.2024 w.r.t. disability certificate and UDID Card
6. Review of the major Schemes/Programmes and new initiatives of the Department
7. Recommendation made by O/o Chief Commissioner for Persons with disabilities in its annual report for the year 2022-23
8. Recommendation made by National Human Rights Commission in its annual report for the year 2022-23
9. Measures taken to estimate the total no. of PwDs as well as no. of PwDs employed in govt and private establishments in respective States/UTs
10. Any other matter with the permission of Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E).

6. Following the presentation, it was open for all CAB members to start the discussion. The gist of submissions made by Members of the Board is as under:

Shri Narayan Singh Kushwaha, Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice and Welfare of Persons with Disability, Government of Madhya Pradesh.

6.1 The Hon'ble Minister highlighted the various programs implemented for the empowerment of PwDs in the state of Madhya Pradesh. The Hon'ble Minister pointed out the establishment of CDS Gwalior stadium that is developed at international standards and provides opportunities for sportspersons with disabilities.

6.2 Referring to the concerned Agenda point of CAB meeting, Hon'ble Minister mentioned that under special recruitment drive by his Ministry, the recruitment of PwDs under 6% reservation is being in all government establishments of the State. The

Accessible India Campaign is also being implemented at various government offices to ensure that the government buildings are accessible to PwDs. In MP, independent State Commissioner for PwDs is also appointed.

6.3 In regard to schemes for PwDs, the Hon'ble Minister mentioned that the MP Govt has started distribution of assistive devices at Block and Taluka levels. Hon'ble Minister also pointed out the work being undertaken for setting up ALIMCO centres in all districts of MP. He highlighted that the MP government organises Jan Sunwai programs and officers concerned with welfare of PwDs are also posted so that the grievances of PwDs are addressed.

6.4 Hon'ble Minister referred to the pension given to PwDs of Rs. 600/- only and requested the CAB to take necessary action so that a request can be shared with the concerned Ministry/Department for increasing the amount of pension.

[Action: DEPwD]

6.5 Lastly, appreciating the Divya Kala Mela and entrepreneurs with disabilities, Hon'ble Minister referred to the DKM held in Jabalpur and mentioned that the MP government has issued orders that all government offices in MP to have at least one shop/ stall managed by PwDs in the office premises.

Dr. M Mathivethan, Hon'ble Minister of Adi Dravida Welfare, Tamil Nadu

6.6 **Hon'ble Minister expressed the commitment of Tamil Nadu Government** to welfare of Persons with Disabilities. In 1993, Govt of Tamil Nadu established a separate Directorate for Disability under Social Welfare Department and in 2010 the TN government created a dedicated Secretariat for Persons with Disability.

Hon'ble Minister highlighted the flagship initiative called Tamil Nadu Rights project with the assistance from World Bank. The project is aimed at inclusivity, accessibility and opportunities for persons with disabilities.

6.7 The Government has developed a Social Registry Enrolment to capture information of PwDs for which a state wide field survey is being done to identify deceased, migrated, ineligible persons and create a database of PwDs who are eligible for various welfare schemes. In this regard, the Hon'ble Minister indicated that UDID database reveals that 8.46 Lakh cards have been issued to PwDs of TN. He further requested DEPwD to provide two-way access of API of UDID database in order to keep track of deceased and migrated PwDs.

6.8 Further, the Hon'ble Minister also brought to notice that the Directorate of Welfare of Persons with Disabilities in Tamil Nadu is headed by an IAS officer and has rehabilitation professionals posted in each district of the state since 1995. Referring to the rules for states under RPwD Act, 2016 Hon'ble Minister informed the Board that, the Tamil Nadu state has appointed independent State Commissioner for PwDs with responsibilities as per RPwD Act, 2016. In this regard, the Hon'ble Minister brought attention to the estimated expenses of the SCPD that is Rs. 2.21 Crore including non-recurring expense of 24.8 lakh per year and requested support from the Central Government for the operation of the SCPD office of Tamil Nadu.

6.9 Highlighting the initiatives of TN government like monthly maintenance grants, assistive devices, scholarships and travel concession, the Hon'ble Minister sought attention to the newly inaugurated Centre of Excellence for Autism Spectrum Disorder that focuses on holistic rehabilitation for persons with Autism with special attention on early childhood intervention for children aged 0-6 years. In this regard, Hon'ble Minister requested the board members to visit the centre and also requested financial assistance of Rs. 25 Crore from the Union Government, under the SIPDA scheme, for enhancing the capabilities and services the Centre.

[Action: DEPwD]

6.10 Hon'ble Minister requested that the data of PwDs that receive the scholarships from DEPwD may be shared with the state annually.

[Action: DEPwD]

6.11 The Hon'ble Minister also requested to the release of 2nd instalment under AIC for the 19 buildings that have been made accessible.

[Action: DEPwD]

6.12 Lastly, the Hon'ble Minister brought forth the agenda that were put up in the last CAB meeting by the Tamil Nadu government where he requested that the contributions of Rs. 300 by the Central government under Indira Gandhi Disability Pension Scheme of may be disbursed to all the 5.29 Lakh PwDs in the state of TN and also that the amount of Rs. 1500/- that is currently being borne by the State Exchequer may also be taken up by the Central Government.

[Action: DEPwD]

Adv. Shri Umesh Andhare, Nagpur- From Saksham- National Head-

6.13 Requested to develop interventions in inclusive/special education for persons with intellectual disabilities including persons with Autism, Down Syndrome among others. Even Age wise relaxations should be provided for Persons with IDs so that admission may be given based on the IQ and not on biological age. Grants from the Government may be provided to NGOs that provide residential/ stay home facilities for Persons with IDs.

6.14 Further the member pointed out that the training facilities for Paralympics may also be enhanced so that PwDs can have opportunities for participating in Paralympics.

6.15 Lastly the member highlighted that the appointment of independent Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities post has been vacant since last 6 years and this the same may be filled as soon as possible

Smt. Padma, Commissioner Secretary, Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Ladhak

6.16 The Hon'ble member requested that the pension disbursement, which is currently done the Ministry of Rural Development needs to be provided by MSJE for old age and widows and PwDs.

Shri H. Srinivas, Airports Authority of India, Ministry of Civil Aviation-

6.17 The member highlighted that AAI has published the Accessibility standards and guidelines and also made the infrastructure at all Airports accessible except 8 airports that shall also be made accessible in the near future.

Shri Kumarpal Mehta, Delhi

6.18 The member requested attention of the board on the lack of awareness about Disability certificate and requested the Department to create more awareness about the generation of Disability certificate among PwDs. Secondly, the member requested to provide information on the insurance for PwDs ad to make the process faster so that PwDs can available insurance facilities. Further the member requested to increase the frequency of CAB meetings and if the CAB meetings can be held on quarterly basis. Lastly the member requested that the CAB Board Members should be informed about the initiatives, programmes, events of the Department so that awareness of the initiatives can be increased by the board members.

[Action: DEPwD]

Shri Uday Prakash, Saksham National Advisory Board

6.19 The member requested that Training and sensitization of Judges and Public prosecutors in regards to the matters related to persons with disabilities. Further the member requested to review of the identification of reserved posts in central and state governments forPwDs which are about to complete 3 years from the date of the respective orders of identification of Posts for PwDs.

[Action: DEPwD]

Dr Avinash, Pune Cochlear Pune

6.20 The member requested attention that under ADIP scheme Cochlear implant operations have been paused and thus the same needs to review.

[Action: DEPwD]

6.21 Secondly the member highlighted that there is a lack special educators for persons with hearing impaired. In this regard, the member suggested to train mothers of persons with hearing impaired can be trained to become special educators and thus requested to explore anyscheme for development of special educators.

[Action: RCI]

Ms. Ruma Banerjee, Seva and Action, Bangalore

6.22 The member requested attention on the Early Intervention scheme and the extension of this with Health department for reaching to rural and tribal villages. Moreover, the member sought attention on the Aspirational districts program and the implementation of schemes of DEPwD at these Aspirational Districts.

6.23 Further the member highlighted the importance of inclusive education as per NEP, 2020 and advised that special educators can also be paid at the level of regular teacher in order to promote Inclusive education.

6.24 Lastly the members highlighted the need to develop skills training programmes that are customised for persons with intellectual disabilities and encourage livelihood/placement

Shri Guruprasad Pawaskar, Goa State Commissioner for PwDs

6.25 The member requested that recommendations provided by state commissioners are not implemented as they are treated as suggestions not directions by state departments. In this regard, clarity on the powers of the State Commissioner in line with the RPwD Act, 2016.

Member from Dadar and Nagar Haveli

6.26 The member requested that the pension for PwDs under Ministry of Rural Development needs clarity on the eligibility criteria as well as universal coverage of PwDs.

[Action: M/o Rural Development]

6.27 In this regard, the member informed requested on that the pension may be taken under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment thus the needed coordination between state and central ministries may be initiated. Further the member indicated that the Medical boards are delaying process of issuing disability certificates.

Xi .Prof Dyal Singh Pawar, Lal Bahardur Shastri Vishwavidyalay

6.28 The member requested to encourage academic institutions like IITs to develop new assistive devices and also devices from foreign countries can be made taxfree for PwDs. Further the member requested that state universities for persons with disabilities may be provided special status from UGC for research in the field of PwDs. In this regard even All universities can be motivated to work for disability.

[Action: UGC]

Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala

6.29 The member highlighted that the Old age policy should be integrated with the schemes of PwDs. In this regard, the member highlighted that NITI Aayog has created a committee for strengthening of old age and schemes related to PwDs can thus be integrated. Moreover, the member requested attention on the regulatory framework

needed for the sales of assistive devices like hearing aids, walking sticks, electronic wheelchairs, etc. as these assistive devices are used by the poor and elderly population. Further the member also requested to review the quality of the products manufactured by ALIMCO and explore ways it can be improved. Lastly the member requested support from central government for onboarding private medical practitioners of issuing disability certificates.

Sh. Jay Singh Chuahan Nagpur Maharashtra, Leads Divyang Wing of Maharashtra

6.30 The member requested focus on self-employment and reviewing NDFDC's loan scheme to reduce the delay in processing of loans for employment. The member also requested to develop synergies between ALIMCO for developing wheelchairs that support self-employment and private sector companies for CSR funds that can be utilized for encouraging self-employment.

Sh. Govindraj from Tamil Nadu Saksham

6.31 The member requested focus on Leprosy cured deformed persons and reviewing the 8 acts/laws that are found discriminatory for Leprosy Cured/ Deformed person.

[Action: M/o Law and Justice]

6.32 Further the member requested that Braille papers used by persons with visual impairment for writing and printing may be exempted from GST.

[Action: D/o Revenue]

Member from Meghalayap

6.33 The member from Meghalaya requested financial support from DEPwD for the Make ability app.]

7.1 Secretary DEPwD responded to the issues raised by Hon'ble Ministers and members of the CAB. He appreciated the work of MP government. He also informed

that a visit may be planned to Tamil Nadu to understand the model and explore scope of collaboration.

7.2 The data of ADIP/AIC/scholarship shall be provided with full access to state governments. Secretary DEPwD agreed on the increase of persons with intellectual disability that is even reflected in the survey of AIMS and thus the need to develop interventions for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities.

7.3 With regard to special Olympics Secretary DEPwD informed that Sports ministry is funding for these events and facilities are available at CDS Gwalior. He further noted that the process of regular appointment of CCPD is under full swing and expected to be completed soon.

7.4 Secretary DEPwD requested the member from AAI, to sensitize staff/security at Airports so that they behave cordially with PwDs visiting airport.

7.5 Secretary DEPwD also agreed on the need of awareness of disability certificate generation process as well as awareness of the initiatives of DEPwD among CAB board members through creation of a master mail list.

7.6 Secretary DEPwD appreciated the suggestion to train/ sensitize Public prosecutor and informed that the Department shall be willing to implement these training in collaboration with M/o Law.

[Action: DEPwD/ M/o Law and Justice]

7.7 He took cognizance of the dearth of Audio Verbal Therapist (AVT) and informed that DEPwD is in discussion with AISH, Mysore for increasing the number of AVT . Secretary also informed the members that for Persons with hearing impairment, the DISLI and DTISL courses have been started at various National Institutes and CRCs of DEPwD aiming at around 5000 sign language interpreters/deaf teachers in the country within two years.

7.8 Taking note of the issues raised for persons with intellectual disability, Secretary, DEPwD informed that the Department has developed short term care givers course for mothers/ parents of PwIDs. He requested the state governments to match the salary levels of all special educators with that of regular teachers. He informed the board members that Ministry of Education has issued a circular that all special schools, irrespective of the Ministries controlling them, can take benefit of all the schemes that are applicable for regular schools under Ministry of Education. He also noted that deliberations are in place for deciding the definite roles of CCPD/ SCPDs under the ambit of RPwD Act 2016.

7.9 Secretary DEPwD also informed that DEPwD is working with IITs on various aspects and DEPwD is open to fund any university that needs funds for research on disability. In this regard, the Department with RCI had meeting with 90 universities/ schools for providing support in research cells for disability in Universities.

7.10 He has apprised the Board members that after modernization of ALIMCO, significant improvement has been made in the quality of the products. Regarding laws/acts related to Leprosy Cured persons, Secretary DEPwD informed that letters have been sent to respective Ministries/State Governments for taking necessary action. Lastly Secretary DEPwD appreciated the suggestions from the members and thanked all the members for their active participation.

8.1 Dr. Virendra Kumar, the Hon'ble Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment (HMSJE), extended a warm welcome to the Hon'ble Ministers representing various States/UTs, CAB members, delegates from States/NGOs, representative from Central Ministries/ Departments and expressed appreciation for the collective efforts dedicated to the empowerment of Persons with Disabilities by the Centre, various States/UTs and NGOs/organizations/stakeholders.

8.2 He highlighted the role of Central Advisory Board meetings in fostering inspiration among States and Union Territories that is serving as a platform for sharing exemplary practices, providing an invaluable opportunity for learning and implementing similar initiatives in their respective jurisdictions. Emphasizing the forward-looking approach of the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision - "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, aur Sabka Prayas," the HMSJE further stated that the Ministry seeks guidance of all the Board members who are working in various capacities in the Society for the overall empowerment of Divyangjans.

8.3 He noted the need for the persons with disabilities to be self-reliant by making their disability a strength not a weakness in line with the Vision for 2047 i.e. Atmanirbhar Bharat. He highlighted the imperative need for sincere efforts in all areas of Accessible India Campaign to empower Persons with Disabilities, which require contribution of states/ UTs and NGOs/ Civil Society Organizations that shall empower PwDs and contribute to the country's promising future.

8.4 He also urged that states need to further boost their efforts towards implementing the provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 by referring to the appointment of independent State Commissioners of PwDs which has also been taken up by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Hon'ble Minister thus urged states to take special cognisance of the mandates under RPwD Act 2016 and implement the same in letter and spirit.

8.5 Further, underscoring the importance of Indian Sign Language HMSJE informed about the various sectors in which ISL has been developed like legal, educational, social, etc. He thus highlighted that ISL is enhancing communication accessibility in all sectors for persons with hearing impairment.

8.6 Hon'ble Minister appreciated the efforts of states in generating more than 1 crore UDID cards and also urged state governments to speed-up the process of creating UDID cards so that PwDs can take benefits of the schemes meant for them. He

highlighted the Rashtriya Vayshria Yojana under which assistive aids and appliances are provided to elderly by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment through ALIMCO. In this regard, he informed that ALIMCO has undergone modernisation at a cost of more than 300 crore and this has also improved the quality and capability of the assistive aids and appliances manufactured by ALIMCO that these are now exported to foreign countries. The motorized tricycle received through ALIMCO is creating self-employment opportunities for PwDs across the country and empowering not only themselves but also their families.

8.7 Further the Hon'ble Minister brought forth the transformative work being done by NIEPVD, Dehradun by creating science labs for persons with visual impairments. He even pointed out the work of Department in economic empowerment of PwDs through the loan scheme of NDFDC.

8.8 Lastly, Hon'ble Minister pointed out the role of Central Advisory Board meeting and expressed his desire to extend the time of the CAB in the next meetings as well as give more time to the members to discuss on the agenda points. He concluded and thanked all the members of the board for their inputs and contribution to the 7th CAB.

9. The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair from the Member-Secretary, CAB and JS(Policy), DEPwD.

List of Participants

Sl. No.	Details of the Participants
1.	Dr. Virendra Kumar, Hon'ble Minister , (SJE) Govt. of India, Chairperson
Hon'ble Minister from States/UTs	
2.	Dr. M. Mathiventhan, Hon'ble Minister for Adi Dravidar Welfare, Govt. of Tamilnadu.
3.	Sh. Narayana Singh Kushwaha, Hon'ble Minister, Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
Members/representatives of the Central Ministries/Departments	
4.	Sh. Rajesh Aggarwal, Secretary, DEPwD- Member
5.	Sh. Rajeev Sharma, Joint Secretary, DEPwD- Member Secretary
6.	Dr. Sunita Mondal, Principal, Director & professor, Deptt. of Physiology, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi.
7.	Dr. Rupali Ray, Assistant Director General, Directorate General of Health Services, MoHFW.
8.	Sh. Umesh Kumar Ram, Joint Director (NSAP), Rural Development, Govt. of India.
9.	Sh. Sreenivas Gujjari, Sr. Architect (HQ), Housing and Urban Affairs, Govt. of India.
10.	Sh. Bhuwanendra Kumar, Director, SR, Ministry of Communication, Department of Telecommunication (SCT Section)
11.	Sh. Rajesh Kumar, Director, Department of Post , Govt. of India
12.	Sh. Sunil Kumar Meena, Section Officer, Department of Post , Govt. of India.
13.	Sh. Silamarasi E, Scientist C, Digital Governance Division, electronics and Information Technology Govt. of India
14.	Dr. H. Srinivas, Member (HR), Civil Aviation, Govt. of India.
15.	Sh. Rishyakesh Priyadarshi, GM (HR), Civil Aviation, Govt. of India.
16.	Sh. Sanjay Dularey GM (OPS), Civil Aviation, Govt. of India.
17.	Sh. Sandeep Saxena Deputy Secretary (Policy), Personnel & Training, Govt. of India
18.	Sh. Ajay Kumar US (Policy), Personnel & Training, Govt. of India

19.	Sh. Susheel Kumar, Director, DPIIT, Govt. of India, Govt. of India
20.	Ms. Meenu Singh Bist, Deputy Secretary, Deptt. of Sports, MYAS, Govt. of India.
21.	Sh. Arvind Kumar, Deputy Secretary, CEO NITI Aayog, New Delhi.
22.	Sh. Mridul Jain, Young Professional, NITI Aayog, New Delhi.
23.	Sh. R.V. Sakhare, Joint Director, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India.
24.	Prof. Vinay Singh, Head Deptt. of Education of Groups with Special Needs (DEGSN), NCTE, New Delhi .
25.	Dr. G.S. Chauhan, Joint Secretary, UGC, University Grants Commission, New Delhi.
26.	Sh. Vikas Boora, Director, Station Development, Railway Board, Ministry of Railway, Govt. of India.
27.	Sh. Umesh Tiwari, Director Estt. (N), Railway Board, Ministry of Railway, Govt. of India.
28.	Sh. Mahesh Kumar Meena, Director E/LL, Ministry of Railway, Govt. of India.
29.	Prof Bharti, CIET, NCERT, New Delhi.
Member/ representatives States/UTs	
30.	Ms. Reeta Devi (Nodal Officer Disability), Andaman & Nicobar Islands
31.	Sh. Manoj Kumar Pandey, Dir. Cum Deputy Secretary Social Welfare & Women Child Development, UT Administration of DNH, Daman and Diu
32.	Shri Vyomesh Contractor (State Coordinator), UT Administration of DNH, Daman and Diu
33.	Sh. Bhaskarjyoti Manta, Additional Secretary, Social Welfare Assam.
34.	Shri Vijay Prakash Meena, I.A.S, Director, Directorate of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of Bihar.
35.	Dr. Palika Arora, Director Social Welfare, Chandigarh,
36.	Shri Sham Rawat, Nodal Officer Disability, Department of Social Welfare UT Chandigarh.

37.	Shri Zakir Hussain, Supritendent DSW, New Delhi.
38.	Sh. Guruprasad R Pawaskar, State Commissioner for PwD, Govt. of Goa
39.	Shri V.J Rajput, State Commissioner for PwD, Govt. of Gujarat
40.	Ms. Alka Yadav, Joint Director, Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt. of Haryana.
41.	Smt. Nachiketa Mishra, Nodal Officer, Integrated Rehabilitation cum resource center, Department of Women, Child Development & Social Security, Govt. of Jharkhand.
42.	Sh. Puneet Kumar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Social Justice, Govt. of Kerala
43.	Ms. Padma Angmo, IIS, Commissioner cum Secretary, Social & Tribal Welfare Department, UT Ladakh.
44.	Sh. Mahesh Kumar Yadav, OSD, Hon'ble Minister, Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
45.	Sh. Arvind Songirkar Private Secretary, Hon'ble Minister, Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh.
46.	Smt. Bridget Warshong, Deputy Commissioner for PwDs, Govt. of Meghalaya.
47.	Sh. Kuolie Here, Dy. Director, Sr. PRO, Social Welfare Department, Govt. of Nagaland, Kohima,.
48.	Thomas Phailu, OSD, Planning, Govt. Nagaland, Kohima.
49.	Smt. Sonia Behera, OAS (S), Additional Secretary, SSPD, Odisha.
50.	Sh. Amarjeet Singh Bhullar, Deputy Director, Directorate Social Security Women & Child Development, Punjab Chandigarh, Govt. of Punjab.
51.	Sh. Sandeep Kumar, Deputy Director, Social Welfare, Govt. of Rajasthan,
52.	Sh. V.G. Sivaraman, Special PA to Hon'ble Minister for Adi Dravidar Welfare, Govt. of Tamilnadu.
53.	Sh. Arun Prasad, PA to Hon'ble Minister for Adi Dravidar Welfare, Govt. of Tamilnadu
54.	Sh. Venkatesan, Senior Liaisoning Assistant, Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.
55.	Sh. R. Rajesh Kannan, Information Officer, Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.

56.	Sh. R. Azhaguraja, Messenger, Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi.
57.	Sh. Ranjit Das, Joint Resident Commissioner, Govt. of Tripura.
58.	Sh. G.R. Nautiyal, Joint Director/Nodal Officer Disabilities, Govt. of Uttarakhand.
59.	Smt. Parna Chanda, IAS, Special Commissioner, Govt. of West Bengal.
60.	Sh. Musheer Ahmed Mirza, JKAS, Special Secretary, Social Welfare Department, UT of J&K.
61.	Smt. M. Lakshmi, IAS, Director, Tamil Nadu, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
62.	Sh. A. Kamal, Legal Consultant, Tamil Nadu, Govt. of Tamil Nadu.
Members/Representatives from National Institutes and & Autonomous Organizations under DEPwD	
63.	Sh. K.R Vaidheeswaran, Joint Secretary & CEO, National Trust
64.	Sh. Praveen Kumar Chief Managing Director, Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO), Kanpur.
65.	Sh. Naveen Shah, Chief Managing Director , National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation , Delhi.
66.	Sh. Praveen Prakash Ambasta , Dy. Chief Commissioner for PwDs, Office of the Chief Commissioner for PwDs.
67.	Sh. Vikas Prasad Trivedi, Dy. Chief Commissioner for PwDs, Office of the Chief Commissioner for PwDs.
68.	Dr. Nachiketa Rout, Director, NIEPMD, Chennai
69.	Dr. Jitendra Sharma, Director, PDUNIPPD, New Delhi.
70.	Sh. Manish Verma, Offg. Director, Director, NIEPVD, Dehradun .
71.	Dr. Suman Kumar, Director, AYJNISHD, Mumbai
72.	Sh. B.V. Ram Kumar, Director, NIEPID Secunderabad
73.	Dr. P.P. Mohanty, Director, SVNIRTAR, Odisha
74.	Dr. Lalit Narayan, Director, NILD, Kolkata
75.	Shri Raju Kumar (Director), ISLRTC, New Delhi.
76.	Dr. Akhilesh Kumar, Director, NIMHR, Sehore.

77.	Sh. Sanjay Kumar (Deputy Director) ISLRTC, New Delhi.
78.	Sh. Santosh Pal, Deputy Director, RCI
79.	Sh Rajesh Kumar Verma, Dy. Director, RCI
80.	Sh. Ajay Choudhary, GM, NDFDC.
81.	Dr. Vineet Rana, GM, NDFDC
82.	Sh. Arun Kumar, AGM, NDFDC.
83.	Sh. Navneet Kumar, Program Officer, National Trust
Nominated Members	
84.	Dr. Avinash Wachasundar, Maharashtra
85.	Dr. Asa Gopalkrishnan, Kerala
86.	Dr. Uday Prakash Warunjikar, Maharashtra
87.	Smt. Kamakshi Swaminathan, Madurai
88.	Smt. Ruma Banerjee, Karnataka
89.	Shri Umesh Narayan Andhare, Maharashtra
90.	Shri Ajeetsingh Mahavirsingh Shekhawat, Gujarat
91.	Sh. Shri S. Govindraaj, Tamil Nadu
92.	Shri Jaysingh Krushnaraoji Chavan, Maharashtra
93.	Shri Kumar Pal Mehta, New Delhi



Seventh Meeting of the Central Advisory Board on Disability

Presentation on agenda items

15th December, 2024

DAIC, New Delhi

KEY FUNCTIONS OF CAB

RPwD ACT Section – 60 to 73

RPwD RULE 21-29 (CHAPTER VIII)

- ❖ *Advise the Central Government and the State Governments on policies, programmes, legislation and projects with respect to disability*
- ❖ *Review and coordinate the activities of all Departments of the Government and other Governmental and non-Governmental Organisations which are dealing with matters relating to persons with disabilities;*
- ❖ *Take up the cause of persons with disabilities with the concerned authorities and the international organisations with a view to provide for schemes and projects for the persons with disabilities in the national plans;*
- ❖ *Recommend steps to ensure accessibility, reasonable accommodation, non-discrimination for persons with disabilities vis-à-vis information, services and the built environment and their participation in social life*

Agenda at a glance

Item No.	Agenda
1	Confirmation of the Minutes of the sixth CAB meeting held on 27.12.2023
2	Action Taken Report on Sixth CAB Recommendations
3	Supreme Court matter: WP (C) 29329 of 2021 Seema Girija Lal vs Union of India
4	Status of implementation of Accessible India Campaign
5	Status of implementation of the RPwD (Amendment) Rules, 2017 notified vide G.S.R. 649(E) dated 16.10.2024 w.r.t. disability certificate and UDID Card
6	Review of the major Schemes/Programmes and new initiatives of the Department
7	Recommendation made by O/o Chief Commissioner for Persons with disabilities in its annual report for the year 2022-23
8	Recommendation made by National Human Rights Commission in its annual report for the year 2022-23
9	Measures taken to estimate the total no. of PwDs as well as no. of PwDs employed in govt and private establishments in respective States/UTs
10	Any other matter with the permission of Hon'ble Minister (SJ&E).

**Agenda item 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of
last meeting held on 27.12.2023**



Agenda item 1

Agenda	Decision to be made by CAB
Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting of Central Advisory Board held on 27.12.2023	❖ Minutes circulated on 07.02.2024. ❖ Central Advisory Board may confirm the minutes of the last meeting of CAB held on 27.12.2023.

Agenda Item 2: Action Taken Report on Sixth CAB Recommendations

Agenda item 2 (ATR) – Identification of posts for persons with benchmark disabilities in State Government Establishments by States/UTs

Recommendations of CAB

- States/UTs to:
 - ⑩ Implement reservation provisions of RPwD Act, 2016 in letter and spirit.
 - ⑩ Complete the exercise of identification of posts suitable for various categories of persons with disabilities at earliest, if not yet, done so; and
 - ⑩ Conduct training of the State Government officials of various organisations and sensitizing them about the provisions of reservation for PwDs and the process of identifying suitable posts for persons with benchmark disabilities on the lines of list notified by Central Government on 04.01.2021.

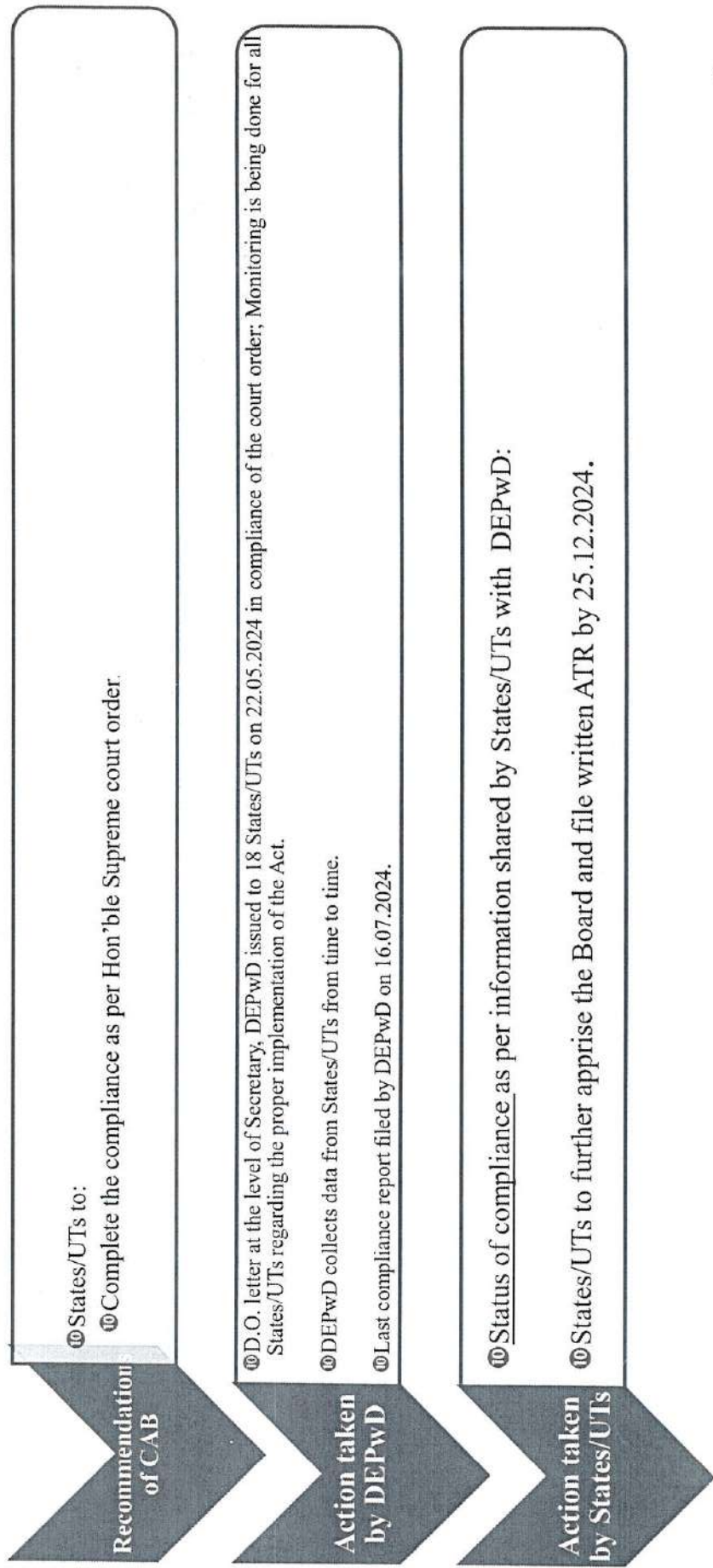
Action taken by DEPwD

- ⑩ DEPwD issued Guidelines concerning identification of posts for PwBDs and their reservation in the Central Government Establishments. These guidelines circulated amongst States/UTs on 03.12.2024.

Action taken by States/UTs

- ⑩ States/UTs to further apprise the Board and file written ATR by 25.12.2024.

Agenda item 2 (ATR) – Action taken in r/o WP 29329 of 2021 Seema Girija Lal vs Union of India



Agenda item 2 (ATR)– Action taken in r/o Supreme Court Contempt Petition No. 1653 of 2018 arising out of W.P. (C) No. 412 of 2016 - Shri Gaurav Bansal Vs Shri Dinesh Kumar & Others

Recommendations of CAB	
⑩ States/UTs to ensure:	⑩ That there is no duplicity in the data filled in the Manoshraya.
⑩ That the detail be updated regularly in the Manoshraya.	⑩ Regular monitoring and inspection of MHI/RH/HH; and
⑩ That the persons who have been successfully cured of mental illness are not languishing in the MHI and are rehabilitated in the RH/HH.	

Action taken by DEPwD	
⑩ DEPwD developed the online dashboard namely 'Manoashraya' to capture the data regarding MHI/RH/HH	⑩ Monthly letters are issued from DEPwD to States/UTs requesting to update/log in into the portal regularly.
⑩ Recently the issue of lack of disability certification in MHIs in the country brought to the notice of the Department with specific mention of Amrutvahini Vikas Mandal (Maharashtra) and New Ark Mission (Karnataka)	⑩ DEPwD issued letters to all States/UTs requesting them to enquire into the above issue

Action taken by States/UTs	
⑩ Despite persuasion from DEPwD, many States/UTs failed to update the portal on regular basis.	⑩ States/UTs to further apprise the Board and file written ATR by 25.12.2024.

Agenda item 2 (ATR)– Action taken in r/o status of implementation of Accessible India Campaign including notification of sector specific accessibility standards.

Recommendations of CAB

- ⑩ Submit pending UCs or initiate the process of refunding the unutilized amount in Central Nodal Accounts.
- ⑩ Submit the information regarding the websites made accessible by ERNET India in response to the letter issued to all Principal Secretaries of Social Welfare departments
- ⑩ Consider the grievances received for the inaccessible built environment and take necessary action in this matter considering the mandatory provision of RPwD Act, 2016 in terms of providing accessible infrastructure.
- ⑩ Take immediate action for compliance of Section 45(1) of the RPwD Act, 2016.
- ⑩ Adopt and ensure the implementation of the sector specific accessibility guidelines.

Action taken by DEPwD

- ⑩ Letter issued by HMSJE to the CM/Administrators of States/UTs to take action regarding CNA implementation, refund of unspent balance and progress reporting.
- ⑩ DEPwD issued letter on 02.07.2024 to all States/UTs for making existing infrastructure accessible in given time frame.
- ⑩ VC held from time to time with States/UTs to ensure implementation. [\(UC status hyperlink\)](#)

Action taken by States/UTs

- ⑩ States/UTs to further apprise the Board and file written ATR by 25.12.2024. [\(State-wise progress hyperlink\)](#)

Agenda item 2 (ATR)– Action taken in r/o status of implementation of Accessible India Campaign including notification of sector specific accessibility standards-contd.

Recommendations of CAB

- ⑩ 20 Ministries/Departments to: - ensure the compliance audit of the provisions of Ministries/Department's respective sector specific guidelines, timely to monitor the 100% accessibility and prevent any discrepancy on ground. expedite notification of their sector specific accessibility standards so that the same could be included under the RPwD Rules, by DEPwD.
- ⑩ Expedite notification of their sector specific accessibility standards so that the same could be included under the RPwD Rules, by DEPwD. Ministry of Railway and Civil Aviation may make the remaining railway stations and airports completely accessible.
- ⑩ Ministry of Railway and Civil Aviation may make the remaining railway stations and airports completely accessible.

Action taken by DEPwD

- ⑩ Out of 20 Ministries/Departments, 14* Ministries/Departments notified guidelines under Rule 15 of the Right of Persons with Disabilities (Amendment) Rules 2023 (*partial compliance by DFS
- ⑩ 03 Ministries/Departments adopted the guidelines of other Ministries/Departments
- ⑩ Remaining 3 Ministries/Departments with guidelines awaited for notification in the official gazette by the concerned Ministry/Department post which it would be incorporated under Rule 15 of RPwD Rules

Action taken by States/UTs

- ⑩ Ministries/Departments to further apprise the Board.

Agenda Item 2 (ATR)– Action taken in r/o status of implementation of the UDID project including linkage of UDID to various schemes and programmes of Central Ministries/Departments and States/UTs

• States/UTs to:

- ⑩ Expedite the process of digitization of manual certificate of disability issued earlier and to develop joint coordination mechanism at the district level to implement the project on campaign mode to achieve saturation. Further, to link their schemes with UDID.

**Recommendations
of CAB**

- ⑩ So far, more than 1.15 crore UDID cards generated.

⑩ Department issued new Assessment Guidelines/SOPs on 14.03.2024 wherein even private medical practitioners may be co-opted in the medical board in case of shortage of medical professionals.

- ⑩ Five training sessions on these new SOPs organized at different zones of the country for 2000 medical professionals. 3 more workshops are to be conducted soon.

⑩ For simplifying the process of digitization, Medical Authorities can take up the digitization feature integrated in the UDID web portal; without fresh assessment procedure.

- ⑩ RPwD Rules amended on 16 Oct, 2024 to streamline disability certification & UDID generation process

⑩ UDID portal revamped and application form simplified.

**Action taken by
DEPwD**

- ⑩ Andhra Pradesh & West Bengal recently migrated to Swavalamban portal

⑩ Telangana yet to migrate to Swalamban portal. They may specifically apprise the Board.

**Action taken by
States/UTs**

- ⑩ All other States/UTs to further apprise the Board and file written ATR by 25.12.2024.



Agenda Item 2 (ATR) – Action taken in r/o review of the major Schemes/ Programmes of the Department

CAB Decisions

- ▶ States/UTs to:
- ▶ Popularize Department's schemes and encourage reputed organizations to apply for grant-in-aid as per eligibility criteria.

Action Taken

- ❖ NIs and CRCs conducted more than 1000 various awareness programs about the schemes of department
 - ❖ Chintan Shivir at Agra for spread awareness about schemes of DEPwD among states
 - ❖ All States/UTs to file written ATR by 25.12.2024.
-

Agenda Item 2 (ATR) – Action taken in r/o Organizing ‘Purple Fest’ by all States/UTs on annual basis for inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities

Recommendations of CAB

► Organize events on the lines of purple fest and ensure that the best practices and innovative intervention aimed at inclusion of PwDs are adequately shared amongst other States/UTs for multiplier effect.

Action taken by DEPwD

- ❖ In the period Dec 2023-Nov 2024, three Purple Fests organised at Goa, Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi. (RB)
- ❖ Department requested all States/UTs on 19.08.2024 to submit the proposal for organising Purple Fest on the basis of Challenge method. Reminders issued on 20.09.2024 and 06.11.2024
- ❖ Proposals received only from J & K and Arunachal Pradesh.

Action taken by States/UTs

- ❖ States/UTs to further apprise the Board and file written ATR by 25.12.2024.

Agenda Item 2 (ATR) – Action taken in r/o schemes for persons with high support needs

Decisions	Action Taken
States/UTs to: ► Develop dedicated schemes to provide high support to such persons with benchmark disabilities.	❖ The Department in collaboration with Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) has undertaken the task of revising the existing version of assessment guidelines for Persons with Disabilities (PwD) requiring High Support Needs. The work is currently in advance stage. ❖ All States/UTs to file written ATR by 25.12.2024



Agenda Item 2 (ATR) :- On other discussion points emerged during last meeting

Developing entrepreneurship/ customized courses/employment opportunities for PwDs

- ⑩ More than 80 MoUs signed with start-ups, corporates, academic institutions and Non-government organizations for holistic empowerment of PwDs. 20 of these MoUs with corporates like Volvo, Zomato, Amazon, etc focusing on facilitating employment opportunities for PwDs through PM DAKSH DEPwD portal
- ⑩ Implementation of Diploma in Teaching Indian Sign Language course for Deaf in NIs and other TTIs
- ⑩ Organisation of 3 Purple Fest in the period Dec 23-Dec 24 at Delhi at Rashtrapati Bhavan in the presence of Hon'ble President of India, Goa and Jammu Kashmir. All these Fests, included various practical discussions to promote employment/entrepreneurship of PwDs.
- ⑩ More than 300 skill training courses for various types of disabilities are currently active. 15 Jan Shikshan Sansthan Course developed for non-literate/neo literate/persons with intellectual disability
- ⑩ 11 Job fairs organized wherein more than 500 PwDs participated and 200+ given offer letters
- ⑩ 10 Divya Kala Melas and Divya Kala Shakti organized wherein 700+ PwDs participated and generated a revenue of 7.08 Crore

Other Discussion points emerged during last meeting – Action taken

Decisions Action Taken

Support from the Board, mainly sought grants under the Accessible India Campaign (AIC) for 17 government buildings and requested to accept offline proposal under DDRS citing difficulties in E-Anudaan portal. (Hon'ble Minister of Forest, Tamil Nadu)	1059 accessibility auditors empanelled with DEPwD. 10E- Anudan portal simplified and no. of required documents reduced w.r.t DDRS scheme.
Early identification of children with disabilities may be expedited by introducing initiatives to involve medical interns in process of screening in addition to further capacity building of ANMs and ASHA Workers (Members).	10Cross Disability Early Intervention Centers set up in NIs and CRCs to address early identification of disabilities. 1026 CDEICs established so far. 10ASHA workers and ANMs being involved in delivering early intervention at CDEICs
An effective monitoring of CRCs needs to be established. (Member)	10Ranking system developed for CRCs.

Agenda Item 2 (ATR) :- On other discussion points emerged during last meeting

Research in Divyang friendly technology should be facilitated

- ⑩ Department is providing financial assistance for the various technology based products like Developing AI-powered smart glasses to help visually impaired individuals read Hindi newspapers and multicolour texts. Creating a computer-based screening test for adults with specific learning disabilities.
- ⑩ Creating a computer-based screening test for adults with specific learning disabilities. Launching an indigenous augmented mobile application (I-AMMA) in Indian languages to facilitate communication for persons with intellectual disabilities.
- ⑩ Launching an indigenous augmented mobile application (I-AMMA) in Indian languages to facilitate communication for persons with intellectual disabilities. Implementing the Jellow Basic AAC Communicator.
- ⑩ Implementing the Jellow Basic AAC Communicator.
- ⑩ Conducting wheelchair and assistive devices assessment by IIT Chennai to empower persons with disabilities
- ⑩ Developing ICT-based software solutions for post-cochlear rehabilitation and monitoring
- ⑩ Organisation of 6 Purple talks in April-May 24 with 100+ start-ups, academic institutions developing technologies for PwDs
- ⑩ 50+ MoUs with start-ups to validate products, technologies, assistive devices for PwDs their care givers

Agenda item 3:- Supreme Court matter : WP 29329 of 2021

- Seema Girija Lal vs Union of India

Agenda 3 - WP 29329 of 2021 Seema Girija Lal vs Union of India

- ❖ A Writ Petition (Civil) No. 29329 of 2021 was filed by Ms. Seema Girija Lal against Union of India and others in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India seeking directions for implementation of provisions (appointment of State Commissioner, notification of Rules etc.) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 by the States and Union Territories.
- ❖ Further, the matter was heard by the Hon'ble Court on 22.04.2024 and Hon'ble Court passed the following order - The implementation of the Act needs to be set right. The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment shall duly take up the issue with all their counterparts in the States/Union Territories and report the updated status of compliance before this Court on or before the next date of listing.

Status of Compliance from State/UTs

Sr. No.	State	To be done
1	Jharkhand	Constitute State Advisory Board
2	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Telengana, Tripura, West Bengal, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (DNH & DD), Delhi and Lakshdweep	Appoint Independent Commissioner
3	West Bengal and DNH & DD	Designate Special Court
4	West Bengal	Appoint Public Prosecutor
5	Himachal Pradesh and Kerala	Appoint Nodal Officer in District Education Office
6	Manipur, Punjab, and Jammu & Kashmir	constitute Assessment Board for High Support needs.
7	Maharashtra, Nagaland, Punjab, West Bengal, DNH&DD and Jammu & Kashmir	Have State Fund for PwDs
8	Kerala, Maharashtra, West Bengal, and Jammu & Kashmir	Constitute Committee for Research

Agenda item 4: Status of implementation of Accessible India Campaign



Status of Implementation of AIC



- Completed Buildings 648 (48.3%) of 1341 funded buildings) of 21 States/Uts
- All 1100 Central Government Building made accessible

- All 35 International Airport and 55 out of 69 Domestic Airports are made accessible
- Out of 1,45,747 buses, 42,348 (29.05%) buses are partially accessible, and 8,695 (5.96%) buses are fully accessible. Out of 3533 bus station, 3120 are made accessible in respected to 24 States/Uts
- Fully accessible Railway Stations, = **709 (Type A1, A & B)**
- Partially accessible Railway Stations = **50%**

- Total 767 both Central and State Govt. websites have been made accessible.
- 19 news channels having telecasted 2447 accessible news bulletin and in General Entertainment Category (GEC), 17 channels have telecast 3686 accessible scheduled programs/movies.

Status	Total Count
Guidelines of Ministries notified under Rule 15 of RPwD Rules	14
Ministries/Departments which have adopted the guidelines/standards of other Ministry/Department notified under Rule 15 of the RPwD Rules.	03
Guidelines of Ministries/Departments awaited for notification by their concerned Ministry/Department	03
Total	20

Status of Implementation of AIC

The case of **Rajive Raturi v. Union of India & Others (2017)**

- The case is based on a report submitted by the Centre for Disability Studies, NALSAR University of Law. As per CDS NALSAR Report- PwDs face issues regarding - Accessibility barriers, Intersectionality and compounded discrimination, Inconsistency in legal framework
- The Union Government has been directed to delineate mandatory rules, as required by Section 40. This exercise may involve segregating the non-negotiable rules from the expansive guidelines already prescribed in Rule 15. a baseline of non-negotiable rules must be prescribed in Rule 15.
- the Union of India, States and Union Territories are directed to ensure that the consequences prescribed in Sections 44, 45, 46 and 89 of the RPwD Act including the holding back of completion certificates and imposition of fines are implemented in cases of non-compliance with Rule 15,

Other issues to discuss in respect of AIC

•All States/UTs were given funds in the previous years in r/o which the utilization certificates and physical progress reports are still pending.

•A significant number of grievances are still pending regarding Built up environment & web/digital accessibility on Sugamya Bharat App which need redressal.

•75 Pilgrim places identified by DEPwD and requested states for their Accessibility Audit. 43 Pilgrim places are pending for accessibility audit and submission of proposal thereon

Status of Implementation of AIC

CAB may urge to all State/UT Governments/Ministries/Departments as per their concerned matter:-

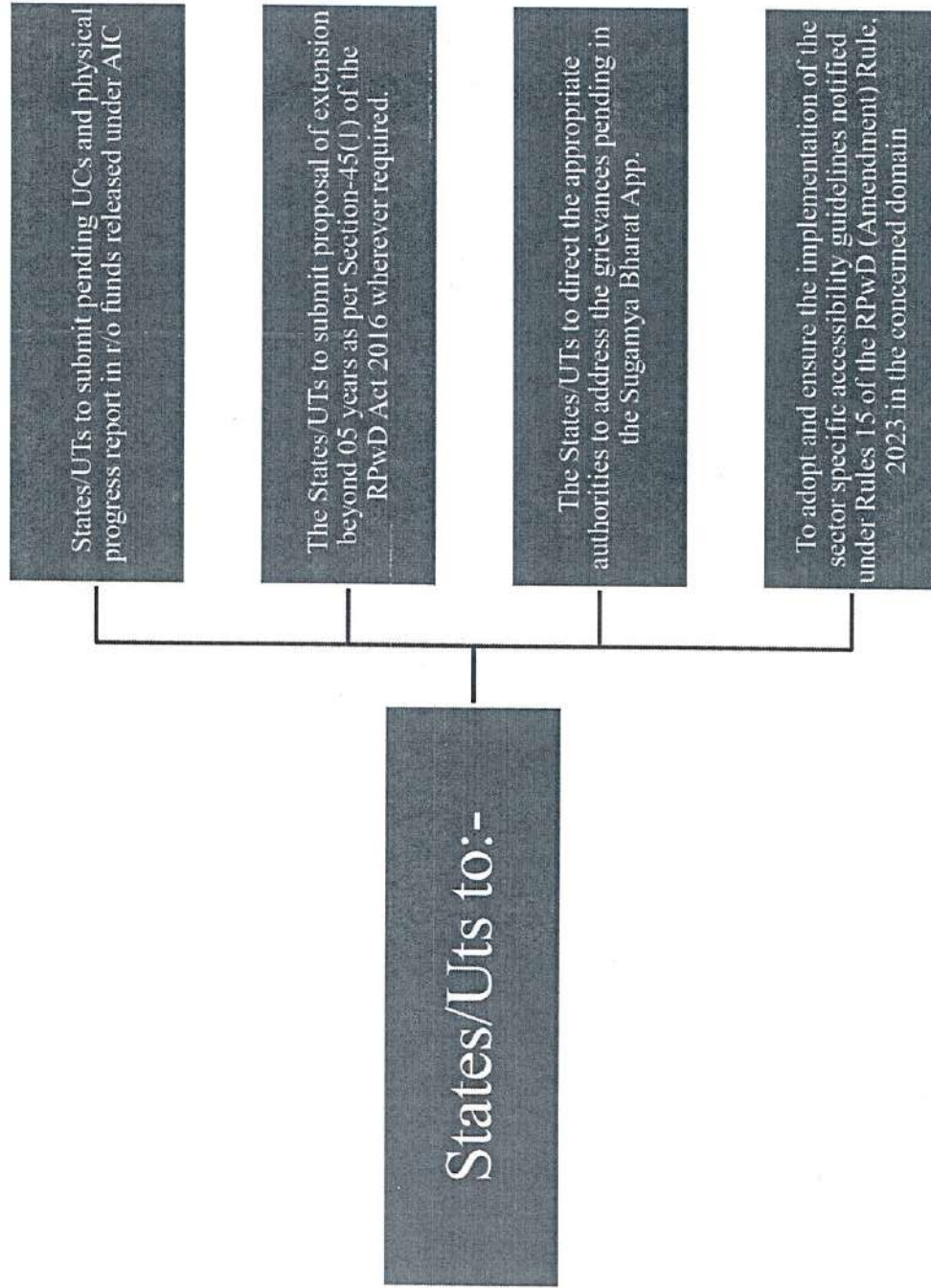
❖ To submit pending UCs or initiate the process of refunding the unutilised amount. Also to utilise the unutilised amount in CNA account or refund the same.

❖ To consider the grievances received for the inaccessible built environment and take necessary action in this matter considering the mandatory provision of RPwD Act, 2016 in terms of providing accessible infrastructure.

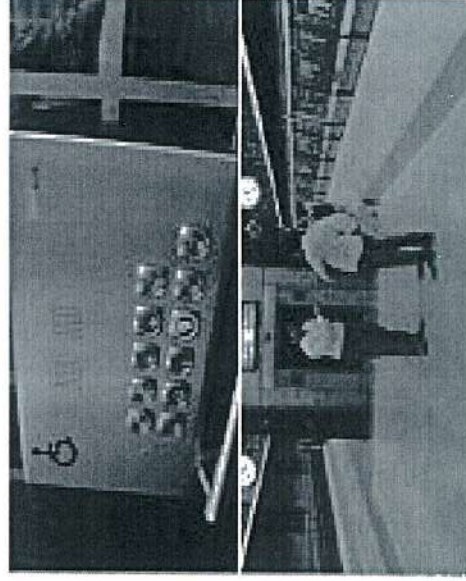
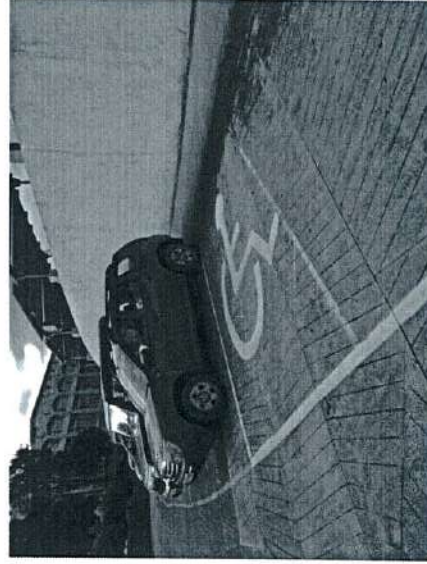
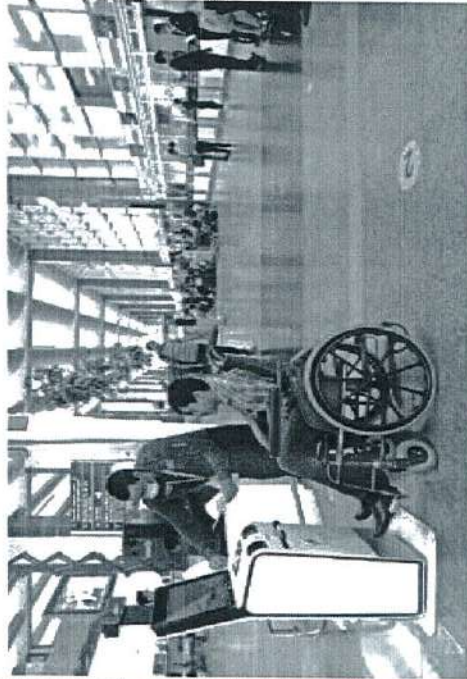
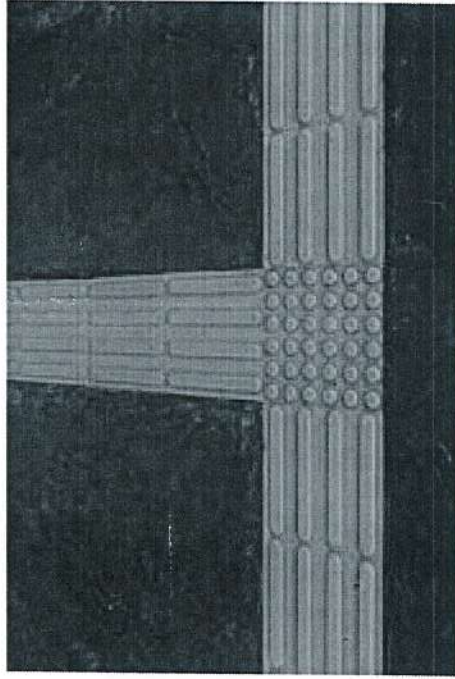
❖ To take immediate action for compliance of Section 45(1) of the RPwD Act, 2016 which mandates that all the existing public buildings be made accessible within a period of 5 years from the date of notification of accessibility standards i.e. by 14.06.2022.

❖ The Ministries/Departments who are yet to issue the sector specific accessibility guidelines to expedite the process

Status of Implementation of AIC



Photos of Accessible Infrastructure



**Agenda item 5: Status of implementation of the RPwD
(Amendment) Rules, 2017 notified vide G.S.R. 649(E)
dated 16.10.2024 w.r.t. disability certificate and UDID
Card**

Agenda 5 : Status of implementation of the RPwD (Amendment) Rules, 2017 notified vide G.S.R. 649(E) dated 16.10.2024 w.r.t. disability certificate and UDID Card

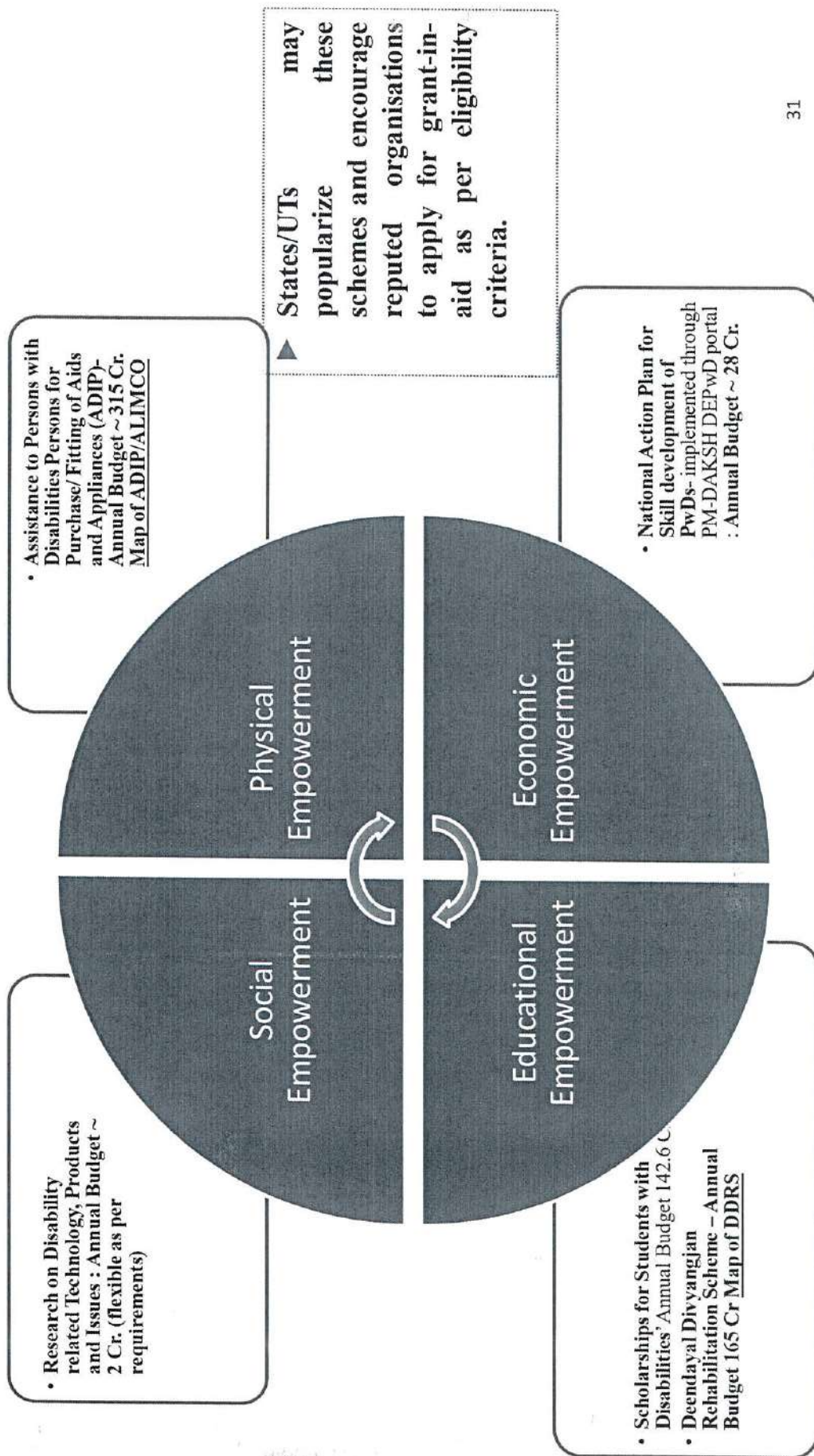
- ▶ Rule 17 & 18 of the RPwD Rules, 2017 provides for application and issuance for certificate of disability.
- ▶ UDID project being implemented since 2016-17 with a view to creating a National Database for PwDs and also to issue Unique Disability ID cards to each PwD. So far more than 1.15 crore UDID cards generated. State-wise pendency position in r/o digitization of the manual certificate of Disability
- ▶ The Govt amended the Rule 17 & 18 of the RPwD Rules 2017 vide G.S.R. 649 (E) dated 16.10.2024.
- ▶ The Central Government earlier issued guidelines for assessing the extent of specified disabilities on 14.03.2024.

▶ The Board may urge :-

- ❖ States/UTs to ensure availability of sufficient number of medical professionals at all levels so as to streamline the process of disability certification as per new assessment guidelines dated 14.03.2024 ;
- ❖ The States/UTs to give wide publicity to the RPwD (Amendment) Rules, 2024 dated 16.10.2024 ; and
- ❖ To expedite the digitization of manual certificate of disability. Other States/UTs also to complete the digitization exercise.

**Agenda item 6: Review of the major Schemes/Programmes
and new initiatives of the Department**

Major Schemes implemented by DEPwD



New Initiatives by DEPwD

► CAB may take note of the new initiatives undertaken by the Department.

Guidelines

Identification of Posts and Compendium

- ⑩ The Department issued Guidelines concerning identification of posts for PwBDs and their reservation in the Central Government Establishments on 08.11.2024.
- ⑩ Pathways to Access (Part-III) – a compendium of Central Government circulars/guidelines/OMs related to employment, health and financial services launched on 03.11.2024.

Infrastructure

Physical and Digital

- ⑩ The National Level Helpline for Divyangjan, Short Code-14456, launched on Jan 8, 2024, at the International Purple Fest, Goa The newly constructed Service Block of the National Institute of Mental Health and Rehabilitation (NIMHR) inaugurated by HMSJE on 10.09.2024
- ⑩ The newly constructed Service Block of the National Institute of Mental Health and Rehabilitation (NIMHR) inaugurated by HMSJE on 10.09.2024
- ⑩ Since January 2024, Five (05) new Composite Regional Centers(CRC) for Rehabilitation, Skill Development and Education have been set up totaling to 30 CRCs under Administrative control of the Department
- ⑩ Establishment of 4 new Cross Disability Early Intervention Centres approved by DEPwD at CRC- Imphal, Shillong, Madurai and Jaipur.

Scholarship

Free Coaching Scheme

- ⑩ 5 new Universities recognized for Free Coaching Schemes and 135 new institutes included under Top Class Scholarship Scheme

[illegible]

- I. Jammu
II. Chhattarpur
III. Madurai
IV. Jaipur
.....
I. Dimapur
II. Varanasi
III. Karaikal
IV. Goa
V. Bangalore

New Initiatives under Assistance to Persons with Disabled for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP)-

67 Pradhan Mantri Divyasha Kendras (PMDK) developed by ALIMCO for distribution of Aids and Assistive Devices under ADIP scheme

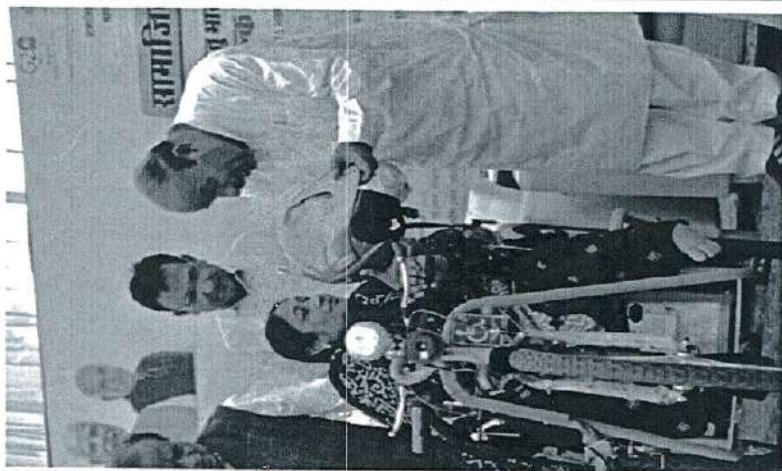
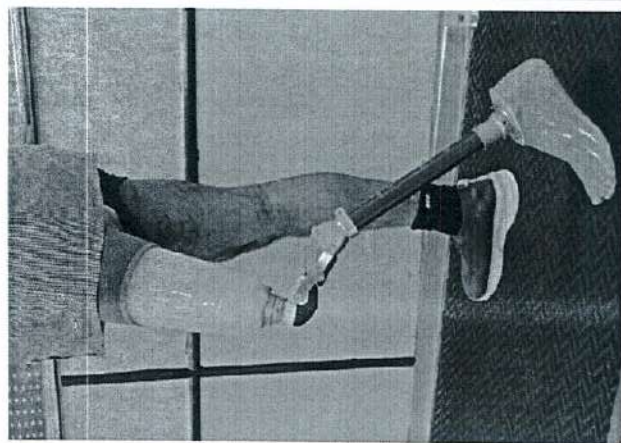
Eligibility of high-end Prosthesis reduced from 80% disability to 40% disability.

Under ADIP SSA eligibility for Motorized Tricycle reduced from 80% to 40%

Benefits of ADIP SSA extended to students studying through home Schooling and Special Schools.

Age of Children criteria for availing aids and assistive devices every one year increased from 12 years to 18 years for customized items.

► CAB may take note of the new initiatives undertaken by the Department.



ADIP

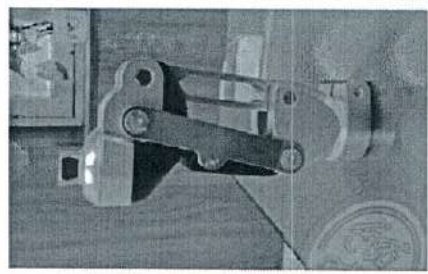


New Partnerships under DEPwD

Partnerships

- ⑩ ALIMCO has collaborated with SBMT (DEBEL) Bangalore and IIT Madras and developed Kadam Knee Joint for persons with Lower Limb Disability.
- ⑩ Developed High power glasses Central Scientific Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO) and Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) inked MoU for collaboration in the design, development, and manufacturing of rehabilitation and assistive technology (AT).
- ⑩ MoU with Association of People with Disabilities for Sugamya Bharat Yatra:- Accessibility tour by Persons with Disabilities via "Yes to Access" App
- ⑩ 70 Hours course of Employability Skills for PwDs developed in partnership with EnAble India and translated in 11 Indian Languages with support of Anuvadini AI
- ⑩ DEPwD signed MoU with SignAble Communications to enhance communication and accessibility for hearing impaired Divyangjan including helpline facility.

► CAB may take note of the new initiatives undertaken by the Department.



New Initiatives by DEPwD

► CAB may take note of the new initiatives undertaken by the Department.

Visual Impairment

- ⑩ 21 story telling books made accessible in audio format for persons with VISUAL impairment in partnership with National Book Trust.
- ⑩ Standard Bharti Braille Code developed and shared for public consultation

Hearing Impairment

- ⑩ 2500 words added in ISL dictionary totaling to 13000+ words in 10 Indian languages
- ⑩ 100 concepts videos for class 6th NCERT books and MoU for developing 500 more.

Intellectual Disability

- ⑩ NIPEID Indian test of intelligence for persons with Intellectual disability with computer-based assessment
- ⑩ Tata Power Community Development Trust along with NIEPID Secunderabad has developed E-Sanidhya Portal an E-Platform for persons with disabilities

New Initiatives under AIC

- ❖ 2-Day Web Accessibility Workshop held for all IT Developers of DEPwD and its National Institutes.
- ❖ 13 Persons with Disabilities trained with support of BarrierBreak and American India Foundation on Web Accessibility to appear for Certification of International Association of Accessibility Professionals
- ❖ The Council of Architecture (COA) and DEPwD have taken significant steps towards promoting accessibility in built environment for empowering PwDs by signing a MOU. The Council successfully conducted online training programs to certify Master Trainers for the Universal Accessibility Auditors programme
- ❖ The DEPwD and EnableMe Access have signed a MoU on 09.07.2024. A 05-days training and sensitization sessions on Universal Design and Accessibility in the Built Environment was organized in the month of August 2024. Approx. 40 participants attended the session.
- ❖ An Expression of Interest (EOI) for empanelment of access auditors for Web/Digital Accessibility was floated on 15.10.2024. As on date, total 10 EOI have been received
- ❖ Project proposal for imparting training on Web Accessibility Guidelines to technical resources within Government Ministries/Departments and Agencies supporting Website/Web-Application development received from NIC has been approved by the Department

**Agenda item 7: Recommendation made by O/o CCPD in
its annual report for the year 2022-23**

Agenda item 7: Recommendations made by O/o CCPD in its annual report for the year 2022-23

- ❖ No role has been defined for CCPDs and SCPDs in the central advisory board and the state advisory board respectively though they can provide valuable feedbacks and inputs.
- ❖ DEPwD has issued letter to the O/o CCPD and all SCPDs for their comments/suggestions for discussion during the CAB meeting

► CAB may urge upon all States/UTs to comment on the recommendation

**Agenda item 8: Recommendation made by National
Human Rights Commission in its annual report for the
year 2022-23**

Agenda 8 : Some of the recommendations made by National Human Rights Commission in its annual report for the year 2022-23

► National Human Rights Commission in its meeting dated 13.04.2022 of core Group on Rights of Persons with disabilities made many recommendations related to accessibility, reasonable accommodation, district disability committee and special courts.

► These recommendations are also part of NHRC's Annual Report for the year 2022-23 to be laid on the Table of both Houses of Parliament.

► The Board may recommend :-

❖ Concerned Ministries/Departments may study these recommendations and take appropriate action.

❖ The States/UTs may explore the feasibility of implementing these recommendations of NHRC. The alignment of State's Development Control Rules and General Building Requirements with the Harmonised Guidelines for public buildings may be done immediately.

❖ Concerned Ministries/Departments and States/UTs may file ATR on the recommendations of NHRC within a period of one month from the date of this meeting.

Agenda item 9: Measures taken by States/UTs to estimate the total no. of PwDs as well as no. of PwDs employed in govt and private establishments in respective States/UTs

Agenda 9 : Measures taken to estimate the total no. of PwDs as well as no. of PwDs employed in govt and private establishments in respective States/UTs

► In India, the major source of statistics is Census 2011 which puts the total number of PwDs at 2.68 crore, however it took into account only 7 categories of disabilities as specified in now repealed PwD Act, 1995.

► However, in all probability the number of PwDs in the country must have increased significantly in view of increasing number of disabilities and population growth.

► The correct estimation of disability population as well as employment data in r/o PwDs in the country is crucial for policy formulation.

Since the Department relies on the census data and it is taking time for the said data to be ready, DEPwD requested all States/UTs on 29.08.2024 to share results of any such survey/s that are being conducted by States/UTs

► State/UTs were also requested on 18.11.2024 to share the number of PwDs working in State Government establishments as well as private sector companies. This data is awaited from the States/UTs.

► The Board may recommend States/UTs to estimate the current total number of PwDs within their territories either by way of conducting a sample survey or using any existing survey. The no. of PwDs working in State Government establishments as well as private sector companies should also be estimated by States/UTs.

CDEIC, PDUNIPPD New Delhi



Thank You

