

Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Major achievement and Initiative since 2014

- As per Census 2011 in India there are 2.68 crore Persons with Disabilities who constitute 2.21 percent of the total population of the country.
- Although "Disability" comes in the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, the Government of India has always played an active role in the field of disability. Disability at the Central level is one of the many important responsibilities of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Therefore, keeping in view the seriousness and specific nature of the subject, a separate "Department of Disability Affairs" was set up within the Ministry on 12th May, 2012.. The Department envisions building an inclusive society in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of divyangs so that they can lead productive, safe and dignified lives.
- After the formation of the government under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi ji in 2014 the issues related to persons with Disabilities have been put at the forefront of government initiatives. Prime Minister, with a view to changing social attitudes and recognizing the potential within them, addressed them as "Divyangjan". Accordingly, this department was also renamed as "Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPWD)".
- Following is a brief description of some of these main schemes and programmes and their main achievements:

1. **Legislative Reform: Enactment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016:**

- Government enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 on 28.12.2016. The Act came into force from 19.04.2017.
- Central Rules were notified on 15.06.2017.
- Main features of the RPwD Act, 2016 are:-
- A rights based legislation unlike the PwD Act, 1995, which was welfare based.
- Categories of Disabilities increased from 7 to 21. On 04.01.2018 Guidelines for assessment of these disabilities were prescribed.
- Reservation in Government jobs for Persons with Disabilities increased from 3% to 4%. Recently on 04.01.2021, the Ministry notified a list of 3566 posts (1046 – Group A; 515-Group B; 1724- Group C and 281-Group D) identified suitable for reservation for PwDs.

- Reservation in seats for students with disabilities in Govt./Govt. aided higher educational institutions increased from 3% to 5%.
- It focuses on creating accessible environment for PwDs in built-up environment, transportation system and ICT eco system.
- It also focuses on promoting participation of PwDs in skill development, sports and recreation.
- O/o Chief Commissioner for PwDs and State Commissioners strengthened under the Act to ensure effective monitoring of the implementation of the Act.
- With a view to protect the rights of PwDs punishment for various offences and violations of the provisions of the Act was introduced.
- Provision of special Court in every district for faster adjudication of cases under the Act.

2. **Strengthening Institutional Framework:**

i. **National Institutes:**

- At present, there are 9 National Institutes (NIs) and 21 Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) engaged in human resource development, provision of rehabilitation services and research and development in the field of disability.
- The two new National Institutes are Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC) set up in 2015 and National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) established in 2019.
- Prior to 2014-15, 07 National Institutes (NIs) were functioning under the Ministry and there were 08 Composite Regional Centres (CRCs) as outreach/ extension centres of respective NIs.
- During the period 2014-15 to 2021-22, Rs. 1920.00 crore released as Grant-in-Aid to all NIs and CRCs and 1.64 crore persons with disabilities served.

ii. **Brief on two New Institutes:**

a. **Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC):**

- Established in September, 2015 with main objective to develop manpower for using, teaching and conducting research in Indian Sign Language.
- Conducting Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation (DISLI) and Diploma in Teaching Indian Sign Language (DTISL) Courses.
- Provides Interpretation Services and Short Term Training Programme on Basic ISL.
- Developed of ISL Dictionary. Launched 3rd Edition of the Dictionary with total 10000 terms on 17.02.2021.
- Developed a Directory of Interpreters and a Directory of Deaf Schools
- Signed an MoU with NCERT on 06.10.2020 to convert textbooks of class I to XII into ISL (Digital Format). Text book of class I to V have already been converted into sign language and launched on 23rd September, 2021.

- Tableau on the theme “EkRashtra, EkSanketikBhasha’ was showcased in Republic Day Parade, 2021.

b. National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR), Sehore:

- The Union Cabinet approved setting up of the National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR), with an estimated cost of Rs. 179.54 crore including Rs. 105.68 crore for construction.
- The Institute made operational in September, 2019 from temporary accommodation provided by the Govt of Madhya Pradesh at Sehore.
- Construction work of the building is in progress and is likely to be completed by July, 2022.
- A Certificate course on caregiving and two diploma courses in community based rehabilitation and vocational training are being run by the Institute.

iii. Mental Health Rehabilitation Help Line:

- The Department launched a 24X7 toll-free (1800-599-0019) Mental Health Rehabilitation Helpline, 'KIRAN', on 7th September 2020, in 13 languages, with the aim of providing/promoting early screening, first-aid, psychological support, distress management mental well being, positive behaviour and psychological crisis management.
- This will help generate awareness about mental health. The rehabilitation counsellors, clinical psychologists and psychiatrists are providing free of cost services at primary and secondary level.
- KIRAN has attended 83955 **new beneficiary** calls.

iv. Centre for Disability Sports:

- A Centre for Disability Sports at Gwalior is being set up with a total cost of Rs.170.99 crore.
- The Centre will have modern state-of-the art facilities for both indoor and outdoor games with a capacity for training 300 sports persons and residential facilities for 200 sports persons, per batch.
- Construction work of the Centre is in progress and is likely to be completed by June, 2022.
- Setting up of another Centre for Disability Sports at Shillong, Meghalaya is under process.

3. Introduction of New Schemes/Streamlining Existing Schemes:

(i) Scholarship Schemes for ‘Students with Disabilities:

Prior to 2014 there was only scholarship scheme viz., National Fellowship for Persons with Disabilities.

(ii) New Scholarship schemes introduced after 2014:-

- i. Pre-matric (For Classes IX & X). Average Scholarship amount Rs. 8,500/- per annum.
 - ii. Post-matric (For Classes XI to Post-Graduate degree/diploma). Average Scholarship amount Rs. 35,000/- per annum.
 - iii. Top Class Education (For Graduate degree/Post-Graduate) Degree/Diploma in notified institutes of excellence in education). Average Scholarship amount Rs.1.75 lakh per annum.
 - iv. National Overseas Scholarship (For Master’s Degree/Doctorate in Universities abroad). Average Scholarship amount Rs. 20.00 lakh per annum.
 - v. National Fellowship for persons with Disabilities.
 - vi. Free Coaching (For appearing at competitive examinations for Government jobs and admission to technical and professional Courses). Average Scholarship amount Rs. 85,000/- per annum.
- All the six scholarship schemes have now been merged under an umbrella scheme titled ‘Scholarships for Students with Disabilities’ to streamline the implementation process.
 - The Pre-matric, Post-matric and Top Class scholarship Schemes are implemented through the National Scholarship Portal.
 - In all the scholarship schemes, grants are released to beneficiaries in DBT mode.

(iii) Further Modifications introduced in Scholarship Scheme w.e.f. 01.4.2018

I. Pre- matric:

- Rate of maintenance allowances enhanced to Rs.2400/- per annum.
- Parental income ceiling increased to Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum from Rs.2.00 lakh per annum.
- Disability allowance in the range of Rs.2000 per annum to Rs. 4000 per annum, according to type of disability.

II. Post-Matric:

- Rate of maintenance allowances enhanced Rs.8400/- per annum.

- Disability allowance in the range of Rs.2000 per annum to Rs. 4000 per annum, according to type of disability.

III. **Top class:**

- Graduate level courses included.
- No. of slots increased from 160 to300 .

IV. **National Overseas Scholarship:**

- Applications accepted throughout the year.
- Amount of solvency certificate reduced to Rs.50,000/- in view of difficulties faced by SwDs.

V. **Scholarships are released through DBT Mode:**

During the last eight years scholarships provided to 1.84 lakh students with disabilities at a cost of Rs.556.37 crore.

4. **Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids/ Appliances (ADIP):**

- ADIP Scheme is one of the most popular scheme for providing assistive aids & assistive devices to Divyangjans.
- The Government has laid great thrust on distribution of aids and assistive devices to Divyangjan. This is quite evident from the fact that under the ADIP Scheme, during the last eight financial years various implementing agencies have conducted 11973 camps across the country and aids and at the cost of Rs.1361.38 crore covering 21.89 lakh beneficiaries.

➤ **In order to enhance the scope and coverage of the ADIP Scheme, it was modified during 2014 and 2021. The salient features of the modified ADIP Scheme implemented w.e.f. 01.04.2022 are as under:**

- Cost of aids and assistive devices raised from Rs.10000/- and from Rs. 15000/- .

- Enhancement of income ceiling for 100% concession from Rs. 15,000/- per month to Rs.22,500/- per month and for 50% concession from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 30,000/- per month.
- Provision of high-end devices like Smart Phone, Smart Cane, Daisy Player, Teaching Learning Material(TLM) Kits, Digital Hearing Aid, Artificial Limbs, ADL Kit for Leprosy cured etc.
- Subsidy of Rs. 50,000/- for Motorized tricycles and Motorized wheelchairs for Divyangjan having at least 80% disability once in 5 years.
- Provision for High-end Prosthesis at the maximum ceiling of Rs.30,000/- for persons having 80% and above disability.
- **Cochlear Implant Programme** was introduced for children with hearing impairment in the age group of 0-5 years with a cost ceiling of Rs. 7.00 lakh per unit for pre-lingual cases and Rs.6.00 lakh per unit for post-lingual hearing loss cases up to the age of 18 years. Through this programme, children having hearing and speech impairment are successfully able to regain hearing and speech functions.

5. Accelerating Accessibility: Accessible India Campaign (AIC):

- i. **A new initiative** for enhancing accessibility, creating awareness and sensitization for creation a universal barrier free environment was taken by the Central Government by launching the **Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan – AIC)** on 3rd December, 2015.
- ii. Its 3 main pillars are in the process of becoming accessible. These are:
 - ✓ Built-Up Environment
 - ✓ Transportation System
 - ✓ Information & Communication (ICT) ecosystems.
- iii. The **achievements of AIC across sectors** are :
 - **Built-Up Environment –**
 - ✓ Access Audit of 1671 buildings completed.
 - ✓ 1607 Government buildings, including 1030 Central Government building have been provided with features of accessibility.
- iv. **Transportation Sector –** Efforts are being made to make the transportation sector accessible.
 - a. **Airports:** 35 International Airports and 55 Domestic Airports have been provided with features of accessibility. Ambulifts are available at 12 airports.
 - b. **Railways:** All 709 A1, A & B category railway stations have been provided with seven Short Term Facilities. 603 railway stations have been provided with 2 Long Term Facilities.
 - c. **Roadways:** 44,153 (30.01%) buses have been made partially accessible and 8,443 (5.73%) made fully accessible

- v. **ICT Ecosystem (Websites)** –Nearly 603 Central and State/UT government websites have been made accessible.
- vi. **Accessibility in TV viewing –**
 - a. Being ensured in a phased manner.
 - b. 19 private news channels are telecasting partially accessible news bulletins.
 - c. 2447 news bulletins have been telecast with subtitling/sign-language interoperation.
 - d. 9 general entertainment channels have telecast 3686 scheduled programs/movies using subtitling
- vii. **Education** – Out of 11,68,292 government and government aided schools, 8,33,703 schools (71%) have been made barrier free with the provision of ramps, handrails and accessible toilets
- viii. **Institutional Literacy Material –**
 - a. The Department has developed an Easy Reckoner of 10 basic features of Accessibility for ease of understanding.
 - b. Volume 1 of the series of guidebooks for professionals titled ACCESS-The Photo Digest on Public Centric Buildings was launched on 2nd March 2021.
 - c. Volume 2 of the series of guidebooks for professionals titled ACCESS-The Photo Digest on Airports was launched on 19.11.2021.
- ix. **Monitoring** -Activities under the Accessible India Campaign are being monitored through a Management Information System (MIS) portal.
- x. **Formulation of Sector Specific Standards of Accessibility –**
 - a. The task of formulation of Sector Specific Standards/Guidelines of Accessibility is underway by respective Ministries/Departments, including Civil Aviation, Roadways, Railways, School and Higher Education, Culture, Tourism, MHA, Banking, Consumer Affairs and Sports.
 - b. Department is lending support through sensitization, handholding and by recommending experts in field of accessibility.
- xi. **Sugamya Bharat App:**
 - a. Helping in crowdsourcing grievances of accessibility being faced on ground in infrastructure and services and forwarding for redressal.
 - b. Helpful also in creating sensitization and awareness generation about importance of accessibility.
 - c. COVID-19 related complaints which are meant only for Divyangjans are being given top priorities now. To be cleared within 3 days.

6. **National Action Plan for Skill Development:**

- A Central Sector Scheme launched in March, 2015
- Key Objectives of the Scheme: To enhance skills of PwDs to enable them to become self-reliant and productive member of the society.
- Training through organizations under the Department and empanelled training partners(ETPs) comprising Govt. (GOs) and Non-Govt. Organizations (NGOs)
- So far Rs. 128.68 Crore spent for skill training of 1.29 Lakh PwDs.

New Initiatives:-

- Association of Sector Skill Councils (SSCs)
- Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) introduced in March, 2021
- MoU with e-Commerce Companies to provide skill training and employment opportunities in e-commerce sector.

7. **Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS):**

- Flagship Central Sector Scheme to provide grant-in-aid to NGOs for projects relating to rehabilitation of PwDs through **e-Anudaan online system**.
- **Scheme was revised from 1st April, 2018 and the cost norms of the scheme were enhanced by 2.5 times** to cover the cost of assistive devices, rehabilitative services, education and boarding and lodging in the special schools.
- There are 516 Projects supported by DDRS running in 27 States/UTs and 348 districts.
- **Achievements:** during the last eight years Grant-in-Aid of Rs.508.34 crore has been released for 3954 projects under DDRS benefitting 2.73 lakh beneficiaries.

8. **Disability certification made easy: Unique Disability Identity ID:**

- The Government of India launched the Unique Disability ID (UDID) Project in 2016-17 with an objective to create a national data base for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) and to issue UDID cards for all disabilities.
- 97% of the districts in the country are implementing the Project.
- So far 70.28 Lakh UDID cards have been issued.

9. CPSEs:

i. **Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO):**

- 'Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)', a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is engaged in manufacturing aids and assistive devices.
- The modernization of ALIMCO is being undertaken by the Govt. at the total cost of Rs.338.00 crore to enable ALIMCO to produce cost effective quality aids and assistive devices. This project is likely to be completed by June, 2022. On completion of modernization project, the production capacity of the Corporation will be increased by 2.5 times.
- In order to cope up with new technology in the field of manufacturing Hi-end aids & assistive devices, ALIMCO has signed MoU with ottobock for manufacturing Hi-end Lower Prosthetics (Artificial Legs) and MoU with M/s Motivation Trust of England for manufacturing modern wheelchairs.

10. **National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation:**

- NHFDC is working towards economic empowerment of Persons with Disabilities since January 1997. Mainly, NHFDC extends concessional loans to PwDs for self employment and higher education.
- In recent years the corporation stressed upon enhancing loans, microfinance, skill training, marketing support etc. with the following initiatives:

[A]Loan Flow Enhancement

- After 2014 NHFDC extended loans of Rs875.60Crores for the benefit of 1.24 lakh PwDs.
- The average loaning per year improved to Rs 110 Cr per year after 2014
- Many loan schemes amalgamated into single scheme, namely, 'DivyangjanSwalambanYojna (DSY)'as a measure towards simplification.
- The upper loan limit was enhanced to Rs. 50 lakhs per beneficiary and the authority for sanction of loan (upto the upper limit) has been delegated in favour of the implementing agencies.
- More activities were added for eligibility for loan

- Loan repayment period has been enhanced from 7 years to 10 years in respect of education loans.
- Rate of interest has reduced in respect of education loans. Now PwDs can availed education loan at 4% p.a.
- In order reach address small financial assistance required by the PwDs, the Corporation revived micro financing through 'Vishesh Micro Finance Yojana (VMY)' with the help of last mile financiers (NBFC-MFIs, Cooperatives, SHGs, Women organizations etc). Rs 50 Crores has been released under VMY in last two years for the benefit of over 15000 PwDs.

[B] Marketing Support:

- Online: NHFDC initiated support to the PwD entrepreneurs in marketing their products using existing online marketing platform (Amazon, Flipkart, GeMetc).
- Offline: An exclusive exhibition of products made by PwD entrepreneurs, artisans and artists (Ekamfest March 2020) was organized for the first time by NHFDC with the support of DEPwD to showcase and market their products. More than 80 PwDs and their organization participated from all over India under brand "Ekam".

[C] Skill Training

- After 2014, the corporation facilitated skill training of over 74500 PwDs. While it was only around 12000 prior to 2014.
- For quality skill trainings of PwDs and Business Connect, NHFDC rolled out the concept of Swavalamban Kendra (SK) - micro skill training centers, which is uniformly designed with all training infrastructure and owned by PwDs. Already, 14 SKs have been established and 17 are under process.
- NSKs continued skill trainings of PwDs through Online classes even in lockdown.

11. Statutory Bodies:

i. Rehabilitation Council of India-Major Reforms:

- Digitization of registration process of rehabilitation professionals and personnel in the Central Rehabilitation Register.
- Simplification and digitization of process of grant of recognition to institutions.
- Curriculum for six month's duration Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) programme jointly developed by Rehabilitation Council of India and the University of Melbourne was released on 19.05.2021 to create a pool of grass-root level workers for facilitating inclusion of PwDs in society. First batch of this programme started from September, 2022 at 16 organizations selected by the Rehabilitation Council of India. 527 Students including 38 Students with Disabilities were enrolled.

ii. **Chief Commissioner of Persons with Disabilities (CCPD)-Major Reforms:**

- Office of the CCPD, a Quasi-Judicial Body works independently to safeguard the rights of persons with disabilities in terms of non-discrimination, ensuring equal opportunities and full participation in the society.
- Since its inception in Sept, 1998, total 39337 cases have been registered in the office of CCPD and 39079 had been disposed off by the end of March, 2022.
- **Simplification of procedures:**
 - ✓ With a view to face to Covid-19 Pandemic caused challenges, all hearings are conducted Online from June, 2020 onwards.
 - ✓ hearings were conducted online through Video Conferencing till 31st March, 2022.

Digitization of the office of CCPD:

- E-office has been made functional;
- All closed case files are scanned/digitized at regular interval;
- The online Grievance Management Portal for facilitating online filing of complaints and processing the same for redressal is being developed. This will facilitate the complainants with real time status of their complaints. The process is likely to be completed shortly.
- New website of the O/o CCPD is functional and fully accessible for persons with disabilities (divyangjan);

iii. **National Trust For the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities:**

- National Trust, a statutory body, was constituted by an Act of Parliament namely “The National Trust for the welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999.
- The core objective of the National Trust Act is to enable and empower these Divyangjan to live as independent and close to their community as possible by creating an enabling environment through comprehensive support system.

• **Activities and achievements during the last eight years:**

- In 2015-16, the National Trust revamped all its schemes and activities and is presently implementing 5 schemes namely –
 - Disha (Early Intervention and School Readiness Scheme for 0-10 years)
 - Vikaas (Day Care Scheme for 10+ years)
 - Niramaya - Health Insurance Scheme,
 - Samarth (Respite Care Residential Scheme)
 - Gharaunda (Group Home for Adults scheme).
- All these schemes are being implemented online through Scheme Management System of the National Trust.
- The DEPwD is supporting in implementation of these scheme by providing Budgetary support every year since 2015-16.
- The online legal guardianship module started by NT has facilitated universal access to the certificate with the application ID generated through the system. Till date, approx.. 51000 and above Legal Guardians have been appointed through online mode.
- After the abrogation of Article 370, LLCs have constituted in all districts of J&K and Ladakh. Discussions are on with the Administration of both the UTs for implementation of NT Act.

Major initiatives related to Niramaya Health Insurance Scheme:

- Earlier the private insurance company was implementing the scheme but from 2015-16, the scheme is being implemented through the Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. and the premium rate is also remained unchanged.
- The scheme is free for Divyangjan’s who are having guardians other than natural parents. It is also applicable for the beneficiary belonging to North Eastern States.
- The scheme registration fee has been waived for all the registered organizations so that they can enroll maximum number of beneficiaries.

- The scheme is exempted from service tax from 2016-17.
- The beneficiaries were 50541 In 2014-15 while they increased to 1,74,979 in 2020-21.

Achievements and Initiatives

14 Cross disability Early Intervention Centres (CDEICs) set up in June, 2021 at 7 National Institutes and 7 Composite Regional Centres on a pilot basis to provide single window facility for screening & identification of risk cases and to provide therapeutic and counselling services besides providing preparatory school facilities for children in the age group of 0-6 years.

Divya Kala Shakti Events:

- DEPWD organized 4 Divya Kala Shakti events since 2019, with a view to showcasing the inner potential of children and youth with disabilities in performing and fine arts.
- While 2 such National events have been organized in Delhi (Rashtrapti Bhawan – April 2019 , Parliament Library – July 2019) , one regional event each has been organized in Tamil Nadu (Chennai – March, 2020) and Arunachal Pradesh (Itanagar –March, 2021).
- ISL e-content of NCERT textbooks of classes I-V launched on 23rd September, 2021.
- Indian Paralympics contingent of Tokyo 2020 Para Olympics felicitated.
- A six-months' duration **Community Based Inclusive Development Program** jointly developed by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) and University of Melbourne launched to develop a pool of grass root level community workers who can work alongside AASHA and Aanganwadi workers for mainstreaming of PwDs in society. 527 students enrolled for the 1st batch being conducted in 16 organizations starting from September, 2021.
- 59 National Award for the year 2020 presented to the persons and organizations in the field of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities by Hon'ble President in a function organised on the occasion of International Disability Day on 3rd December, 2021 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- 4007 Cochlear Implant surgeries successfully completed under ADIP Scheme,
- Launched comic book on accessibility.
- 5 new building/hostel building of NIs/CRCs inaugurated at Kolkata, Navi Mumbai, Secunderabad, Kozhikode and Lucknow in 2021-22.
- A 24X7 toll-free (1800-599-0019) Mental Health Rehabilitation Helpline, 'Kiran' was launched on 7th September 2020, in 13 languages. country. The details of the beneficiaries who availed KIRAN services as on 28.02.2022 are as follows:
 - New cases - 66187

- Follow up cases - 17768
- Construction work of NIMHR, Sehore is likely to be completed by July, 2022
- Construction work of Centre for Disability Sports, Gwalior is likely to be completed by June, 2022
- Following CRCs have been set up during the last three years i.e. on or after 01st April 2018:-

(i) CRC, Ranchi, Jharkhand

(ii) CRC, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh

(iii) CRC, Gangtok, Sikkim

(iv) CRC, Balangir, Odisha

(v) CRC, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar

(vi) CRC, Imphal, Manipur

7. **Projects inaugurated (2021-22):**

S. No.	Name of Event	Total cost of Project	Date of inauguration of project
1.	Inauguration of hostel building at CRC, Lucknow	Rs. 15.60 crore	30.10.21
2.	Construction of Building for NIEPID, RC Navi Mumbai	Rs.14. 66 crore	24.12.21
3.	Inauguration of New Hostel Building and Annexe Building of NILD, Kolkata	Hostel building: Rs. 10.72 crore Annexe Building: Rs. 10.35 crore	24.12.21
4.	Inauguration of New Building at CRC, Kozhikode	Rs. 19.84 crore	18.01.22

New Capital Projects

- Laying of foundation stone of new building of CRC Rajnandgaon in the 5 acre area in Thakutolla G.P. which is around 10 km from the city centre.

7. Date of program: 02.05.2022

- Laying of foundation stone of new building of CRC Davangere in the 4 acre area in Vadinnahalli village which is around 9 km from the city centre
- Inauguration of new building of CRC, Ahmedabad.
- Inauguration of new hostel building at NIEPMD, Chennai.

Major Initiatives of the office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.

- Since **June 2020**, all hearings are being conducted online. Upto January 2022, **2191** cases were disposed off by the O/o CCPD.
- Recently, CCPD has taken Suo-moto cognizance of violations of Rights of Divyangjan including Social Media, Electronic and Print Media sources wherein outcomes are very satisfying.
- The office of CCPD has **digitized all its record** upto the year 2021. Thereafter **scanning is carried out regularly** for the files on closure of each case.
- All **judgments** issued by the CCPD as a result of hearing conducted under Section 75 of the RPwD Act, 2016 are being **uploaded on the website** of the Department invariably.
- New website, fully accessible and user friendly for Divyangjan has been launched on 04.03.2022.

Other new Initiatives of the Department:

- For awareness generation, an initiative, 'छुले आसमान' being pursued in association with Doordarshan,
- Formation of CPMU/DSU for monitoring purpose.
- Organization of Divya Kala Shakti event at regional level.
- Holding of exhibitions on innovative and research based Aids and Assistive Devices, besides holding general exhibitions on Aids and Assistive Devices.
- To organize National Awards for PwDs for the year 2021 and 2022 as per the revised guidelines approved by the MHA.
- Centre for Disability Sports at Shillong under consideration.
- DPR is being prepared for National University for Divyangjans to be set up at Kamrup in Assam.

- 6 more CDEICs at 6 CRCs will be set up during 2022-23.
- National Trust to expand its outreach specially in North East, J&K and remote tribal areas
