
MAHARASHTRA STATE POLICY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

1. INTRODUCTION

The Constitution of India ensures equality, freedom, justice and dignity of all individuals and mandates an inclusive society for all including persons with disabilities (PwD)

The Government of India signed UNCRPD and enacted Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2016 that recognizes that persons with disability are entitled to equal opportunities & rights to participate in the political, social, and economic and self- development activities in all walks of life. In keeping with the developments at the National and International level, the Government of Maharashtra has taken several initiatives to align with the national agenda. This includes formation of Action Plan 2001, School code for Special schools & workshops, Guidelines for recognition of institutions serving PwDs etc.

This policy initiative of Government of Maharashtra is logical progression of legal framework and guidelines for development of institutional infrastructure. The objectives of the policy are :

- a. Smooth and effective implementation of all legislations relating to Divyangjan.
- b. Develop effective multi-sectoral coordination amongst concerned government agencies to ensure early detection, inclusion in education, skill building and appropriate employment, social mainstreaming and legal capacity for all Divyangjans.
- c. Provide necessary budget allocation and required provisions
- d. Suitable regulatory mechanism for effective delivery of services to Divyangjans
- e. Avoid discrimination, exploitation and exclusion of Divyangjan from all spheres of public life and delivery of services.
- f. Take suitable care of Divyangjan with high support needs due to disability, family circumstances or social exclusion.

2. Prevention, Early Detection, and Intervention for Developmental Delays and Disabilities.

2(i) Prevention of Post-natal Development Delays Prevention is the key to reduce the incidences of disability cases among new born. The Developmental delays are common in early childhood and some of them can be prevented by pre-natal care.

- a. Therefore maternal health care, pre-natal, natal service and post natal care will be enhanced by further improving PHC, Rural Hospitals, Sub District Hospitals, District Hospitals, medical officer, health workers and birth attendants under National Health Scheme.
- b. Awareness campaign to encourage pregnant and lactating women to avail institutional delivery facility and claim Rs 6000 under Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Yojana.
- c. Awareness campaign for rural based pregnant women to avail free supply/ facility of vitamin supplements and immunization by government PHCs

2(ii) Early Detection of Development Delays among Infants and Children :

The Developmental delays are common in early childhood affecting at least 10 percent of the children (as per Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Kalyan Karyakram official note). These delays if not intervened early may lead to permanent disabilities including cognitive, hearing or vision impairment.

- a. The State will endeavor for early detection and management by creating awareness among the ASHA, Anganwadi, Health workers, teachers of Education Department and Special school teachers and through District Early Intervention Centers (DEIC) in preventing these conditions to progress to its more severe and debilitating form, and thereby reducing incidence of disability and improving implementation of Right to Education. The State will also train the ASHA, Anganwadi and Health workers in methods of screening children for disability.
- b. The State will support development of indigenous screening and diagnostic tools wherever required.
- c. Community awareness shall be created regarding role of early intervention and mothers/care givers of divyang children will be trained for home based therapy.
- d. Help of the National institutes will be taken to decide what training is to be given in Community awareness.
- e. Necessary surgical interventions and implants wherever recommended by medical authorities shall be facilitated by the state using Government of India subsidy and state contribution and local bodies funds from 3% budgetary allocation.

2(iii) Availability of Early Intervention Services & Awareness Creation :

Early intervention therapeutic services are not available mainly due to shortage or absence of professionals in semi urban and rural areas.

- a) The Community Workers, and Mothers & care givers will be trained as “Trans-disciplinary Workers” for undertaking the work under guidance of therapists from district hospital. The state will train paramedics or health workers in the above curative areas under DEIC scheme. The assistance of NGOs and members of Civil society will be taken for creating a larger network of early intervention services, and generating public awareness regarding critical role of early detection and intervention in preventing or reducing the impact of a disabling condition
- b) The state will also promote use of time-tested and beneficial child nurturing and parenting practices such as breast feeding, water therapy, massage, appropriate nutrition and mother-infant interactions for physical and mental development of the child during early years and specially during infancy. In addition, physical activities such as yoga, dance and movement with music, swimming and adaptive physical education have produced good results in development of motor, social, and cognitive skills of children with disabilities. Preventive immunization has also helped.

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- c) The District Collector, CEO Zilla Parishad and Municipal Commissioner and Chief Officers of local bodies will provide 3% budgetary allocation in new District Planning & Development Committee (DPDC) schemes, for this purpose. The State will also endeavor to spend increasing amount on this component, realizing that small fund allocated at this stage can in fact save a lot of public expenditure at later stage and also ensure better integration of the Divyangjan.

3. Education

3(i) Inclusive Education : The state will give priority to inclusive education for divyangjan children and only those with high support needs in terms of cognitive, behavioral or neuro disability shall be catered for special education.

- a) The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan provides for special resources for education of Divyang students with emphasis on inclusive education for their scholastic as well as overall personality development. A special awareness drive among parents of Divyang children will be undertaken for effective implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan.
- b) The Education department will ensure that children with disability do not face any discrimination and barriers in the school for which measures to sensitize fellow students, teachers and school administrators will be initiated. Divyang Children will receive reasonable accommodation as per their needs.
- c) The State Education Department will ensure that all government, government aided and private schools will train existing teachers. At least one special education teacher to be provided for each school for exclusive support of divyangjan students. The voluntary services of Parents / Community workers for assisting the teacher will be encouraged.
- d) Regular school teachers will be encouraged to equip themselves in the area of disability through Open and distance learning mode recognized by Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI).
- e) The state would also ensure that students with disability receive appropriate support viz academics, class room support, accessibility to school facilities, examination writer and extra time, adaptation of curriculum and aids and appliances to meet the needs of Divyang Children etc. within framework of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.
- f) The State will encourage inclusive education of children who have visually impairment (including low-vision), hearing impairment, loco-motor disability, mild intellectual disability, high functioning autism, slow learning ability, learning disability, and high functioning cerebral palsy in order to build their competencies and provide equal scholastic opportunities. For this services of Parents and Community workers will be utilized on honorarium basis.

3(ii) Special Education through schools and workshops :

Wherever the special needs of Divyangjans cannot be met in inclusive environment the Divyangjan students shall be provided with special education under provisions of Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education Act 2009. Lower functioning Mansik divyang children (Intellectually Disabled, Autism and Multiple Disabled) and children with high support needs will continue to receive special education that would emphasize on building their proficiency on activities of daily needs, working on their behavioral and emotional needs, personal mobility and community support. The objective will be to enable children with intellectual disability or those with high support needs, to attain their maximum potential with in the connotation of education for all children.

- a) Special schools will be encouraged to provide pre-school training to students for inclusion in mainstream schools especially in the case of blind, hearing impaired and neuro development disabilities. The performance of these special schools will be judged by number of students integrated successfully for inclusive education.
- b) Children with low functional levels may continue in special schools for which state will provide necessary provisions under Right to Compulsory Education Act. Special schools may focus on functional literacy skills, pre vocational skills, and children will be given an option of Rajiv Gandhi open School to complete the school education up to the standard 10th.
- c) In all special schools with hostel facilities and aided by the government the first priority for admission will be for divyang children who are orphan, destitute or not being looked after by parents, followed by children with Intellectual Disability, Autism, multiple disability and children with high support needs.
- d) The next priority will be to children below 5 years who have been detected early for disability and who need to be given the necessary training and early intervention so that the utmost benefit can be got in the early developmental phase in view of the neuroplasticity that they have. To facilitate their coming to the special schools, appropriate day care models will be given preference wherein the mothers will be encouraged to come along with the child so that she is also trained in the process of education of the child.
- e) For those unaided institutions wanting to have special schools by using donations/CSR or their own resources, the state will encourage them to do so and monitor their performance and quality.
- f) The State will display on its Disability web portal about facilities that are available in the State for purpose of Special education and Inclusive education resources in the state.
- g) Children with hearing impairment will have universal accessibility for sign language. Special schools for children with hearing impaired may adopt sign language as mode of communication and medium of instructions for teaching. However, every effort will be made to have children below five years to learn to speak with hearing aid and later develop

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reading and writing skills at par with their peers so that they are integrated in inclusive education at the earliest.

- h) The state shall prepare a master plan based on broad census figures for even distribution of special education facilities in each district. This master plan will be the base for sanctioning or de-sanctioning state aided special schools in the districts, or for mobilization of the resource teachers.
- i) The special workshops for the disabled will be modified in keeping with the latest trends in skill development and habitation and rehabilitation and those workshops which do not comply with the changes will be closed.
- j) There will be a model school representing major disability in every division (excluding the orthopedic since most of the children with this disability should avail inclusive education). The Government will empower such schools to become school of excellence.

3(iii) Higher Education : The Government shall involve schemes to facilitate higher education by students with disability in every stream. The universities and colleges in the state would have necessary aids and appliances for higher education of PwDs.

- a) The State shall encourage colleges and University Departments that are conducting Teacher Education Programs to prepare teachers to work with children with disabilities. The School Education Department will provide information about such professional courses in order to attract young people to enroll in the courses.
- b) The State shall support the establishment of Centre for Disability Studies in the state universities. The Centre for Disability Studies will conduct Post Graduate courses in various streams, in addition to undertaking research and development work.
- c) With a view to encourage and facilitate higher education of PwDs belonging to the rural areas the state shall reserve 5% seats in residential hostel at concessional rates for students with disability, domiciled in rural areas.

3(iv) Other regulatory issues in education:

- a. The state government would facilitate:-
 - 1. Appointment of at least one parent/ guardian of children with disability among the members of the school management committee established under section 21 of the Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education Act 2009.
 - 2. Ensure and monitor the admission, attendance and completion of elementary and secondary education of child with disability.
 - 3. Establish requisite study in the teachers training curriculum such that they are equipped to understand and cater to the general needs of students with disability in their class

4. Provide reservation for students with disability in undergraduate and postgraduate courses, horizontally among all general and reserved categories of admissions.
 5. Fee concession for higher education of Divyang students.
- b. The Maharashtra School Code 1997 will be revised to incorporate the principles of inclusive education, emerging curriculum/ standards of education for students with disability, assisted devices, and technology as educational aid.
- c. The expenditure on education through special schools will be kept up to 70% of the budget so that other intervention measures, especially the early interventions and direct benefit transfer schemes are given better budgetary allocation.

4(i) Skill Development & Accreditations : The state shall facilitate imparting of skills through convergence of existing centers and establish centers where none exists for persons with disability or for specific disability.

- a. The districts shall have work centers where persons with disability in the rural areas can be imparted necessary skills in agro vocations, domiciliary occupations and support their creativity.
- b. Skill building courses will be based on industry driven curricula and pedagogy which will also support self-employment. These job-oriented eLearning courses can reach thousands of students with disability through the universal IT platform.
- c. For persons with intellectual or ASD disability the state shall encourage parent organizations and NGOs to operate Vocational training and skill building centers. Such centers shall develop vocational skills as well as behavioral and emotional skills among their trainees appropriate for employment in supported workshops or open employment facilitated by mentors. The mentors for facilitating open employment shall be considered part of skill building initiative and training programs shall be developed for mentors.
- d. The State shall support the accreditation of skill building courses conducted by NGOs as specified by Skill Council for Persons with Disability (SCPwD) for each type of disability. The accreditation will be done by a selected Govt. agency involved in providing vocational and skill building programs.
- e. For persons with intellectual disability and Divyangjan with high support needs there shall be no age bar for continuing training in the vocational centers. The persons with high support needs will continue to acquire skills appropriate to their daily living with dignity.
- f. The Divyangjan shall be provided fee concession for skill building training and provided with appropriate means of transport for accessing the skill building institution.

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- g. The government will collaborate with industry for apprenticeship for Divyangjan and their further employment.

4(ii) Employment : Employment is the best means of providing dignity, self-confidence and respect for Divyangs. Therefore the state would ensure equal opportunities to Divyangs in the matter of employment in public and private institutions.

- a. The state would prepare a job identification list within 6 months of adoption of this policy as per Section 32 and provide reservation as per Section 33 of Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2016. However, the job reservation list will not deny right to employment to any Divyang if he is otherwise qualified in all respect for a job.
- b. The appointment of divyang as per reservation provision in the PWD Act shall be effectively monitored by the BC cells in all offices, by Appointing authority and also cross verified by the State Commissioner Disability.
- c. The job reservation will be also applicable in employment guarantee schemes operated by the state. The data of such employment and vacancies for Divyangs shall be put in the government website for transparency and adherence by government and local bodies.
- d. All jobs created in the industry or establishments where the state provides land or amenities at concessional rate shall agree to the provisions of Rights of Persons with Disability 2016 for providing employment to Divyangjan.

4(iii) Encouraging Entrepreneurship: Self employment & Entrepreneurship is best form of employment and act as an engine for employment generation in unorganized sector.

- a. The state shall formulate schemes and programs including provisions of loans and subsidy in repayment of interest to facilitate self-employment of Divyangs and include it in its Employment and Self-employment policy.
- b. MSHFDC shall coordinate with the government to fulfill target for Divyangs in the self-employment schemes.
- c. In accordance with Section 36C of Rights of Persons with Disability Act the state and local authorities shall provide preferential allotment of land at concessional rate as and when available for setting up factories and sheltered workshops by Divyang entrepreneurs or parent of persons with intellectual disability. The same will be applicable where the state carries out Industrial Cluster Development and Special Zones for specific industry.
- d. The state government and local governments shall provide self-employment and financial support to persons with high support needs as unemployment allowance in addition to applicable pension. Similar allowance shall be applicable to all persons with intellectual disability living in state run group homes in addition to other budgetary provisions available for group homes.

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- e. The state shall form divyangjan friendly portals that would provide up to date information regarding education and employment opportunities and guide them regarding different government schemes and industry sponsored on-job training.

5 Rehabilitation Services

5(i) Provision of Group Homes : All Divyangs should live a meaningful life irrespective of the nature of impairment, age, place and family circumstances. In this respect persons with intellectual disability are more vulnerable after the death of their parents in a nucleus family set up. The state will enable setting up group home facilities for such Divyangs by Parent organizations.

- a. The Divyangs will not be uprooted from their home without their consent and whatever steps are initiated by their parent or guardian for their long term resettlement shall be guided only by the interest of concerned Divyang and after protecting the interest of Divyang's share of inheritance
- b. The state will prepare minimum standards for development and operation of group homes which will be applicable for all government, government aided and private operated group homes.
- c. The state will organize programs through Parent organizations for harnessing peer, professional and community support for Mansik Divyang to resume and continue their personal living, social and economic well-being after the death of parents.
- d. The state would provide land on priority at concession rate as far as possible to the Parent organization for building group home facilities.
- e. The state will initiate provisions in the development plan regulations to allow use of agricultural land with higher floor space index for the purpose of setting up group homes and associated workshop facilities for Mansik Divyangs.

5(ii) Training of Care Takers

The state would provide incentive to existing group homes for conducting training courses for care takers for employment in group homes.

5(iii) Preference for Divyangjan with high support needs.

While allotting accommodation in government or government assisted group homes the vulnerable persons with disability or Divyangjan with high support need will be given preference over the other persons.

6. Disability Certificate & Health Insurance

- a. The State will empower additional authorities to issue disability certificate so as to make them available at a much faster pace. It will continue with the SADM (software for

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assessment of disability Maharashtra) system of certificate issuance and will link it to Adhar card upon shifting to UDID.

- b. All expenditure including travel, boarding and lodging incurred by Divyang and his accompanying parent shall be reimbursed by local bodies under Divyangjan welfare scheme for each incidence of issue/ renewal of certificate.
- c. All school going Divyangs or those undergoing pre school training shall be provided free medical insurance if eligible for health insurance scheme operated by The National Trust or Swabhilamban scheme, if not covered by any other state health insurance scheme. The state will make direct arrangement with the health insurance agency for payment of annual premium.

7. Barrier Free Environment, Right of Accessibility

All public buildings, public services and information and communication services including transportation will be made accessible in a phased manner based on principles of safety, accessibility and reliability.

- a. Where ever in the old buildings it is not possible to modify and make it accessible to Divyangs the respective department should provide appropriate human assistance to Divyangs.
- b. All government departments and local governments will ensure that all their publications, notices and announcements are accessible to Divyangs, including those for procurement, employment, public health, disaster preparedness and environment.
- c. The state shall formulate schemes for affordable access to information and communication technology for Divyang, in rural as well as urban areas.

8. Aids and Appliances, Assistive Devices and follow up care and Maintenance

- a. The state will provide required assistive devices for Divyangs using the Government of India and state schemes to enable and facilitate personal mobility, artificial limbs and assistive devices, communication, interface and loco-motor action. Efforts will be made to avoid duplication of provisions to individual divyangs.
- b. The repairs of assistive devices will be enabled by including maintenance provision in the grants and budget of local government.
- c. The State will ensure that a comprehensive rehabilitation package is encouraged which takes care of distribution of aids and appliances and also provide rehabilitative services and therapeutic care and training post distribution of the aids.

9. Legal Capacity & Guardianship

- a. All Divyangjan shall enjoy the right to personal liberty and justice, security, legal rights, inheritance of movable and immovable property, on an equal basis with others. They will have a right to respect for their identity and to be respectfully addressed.
- b. The state shall create sensitization in civil society by awareness campaign and also by incorporating suitable chapters on Divyangs in the text books of primary and secondary curriculum syllabus taught in Maharashtra, with in a year of issue of this policy.
- c. The state shall facilitate legal guardianship under The National Trust Act 1999 in a timely manner and facilitate processing of guardianship application by Local Level Committee constituted under the district collectors.
- d. The rights of homeless Divyangs in institutions will be respected on equal basis with others and will be given priority in inclusion at school, skill building and employment.

10. Self Advocacy and Divyang/ Parent organizations

- a. It has been universally accepted that Divyangs and organizations of Divyangs and parents (in case of persons with intellectual disability) have the best ability to advocate requirements of Divyangs and also to point out where their rights are being infringed. Therefore state will promote formation of Divyang/ parent organizations for awareness building and enable them to act as watch dogs for implementation of this policy.
- b. The Divyang organizations will be also encouraged to provide services specific to respective disability provided it does not result in segregation of that category of Divyangs from the mainstream society in long terms.
- c. The parents (of Mansik Divyang) organizations will be encouraged to set up sheltered workshops, group homes and rehabilitation centers and also conduct self-advocacy programs among Mansik Divyang to create self-awareness, their rights & responsibilities as citizens, exercising their choice in day to day life and reporting unlawful acts against them.
- d. The application for registration of NGOs, Divyang/ Parent organization under Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2016 shall be disposed within 3 months of receipt of on-line application and awarded registration and with in 60 days for renewal of registration as per Section 50 of Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2016.

11. Special Provisions for Divyang with High Support Needs and Direct Benefit Transfer Scheme

- a. Persons with high support needs means Divyang who due to nature of their impairment combined with attitudinal, movement, behavioral or locational barriers are subject to familial or social exclusion and are concealed, neglected, segregated or abandoned or living in institutions meant for destitute or homeless or are orphans. As an illustration, the disabled as defined in the National Trust Act and who have severe to profound disability

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could be considered in this category. Also, those disabled in any category, who have been orphaned or are children in need of special care and protection may be classified as those needing high support needs.

- b. The State shall formulate schemes to provide reasonable living means to Divyang with high support needs in the form of living allowance, subject to economic status of parents. Such pension will be given under direct benefit transfer scheme to the affected Divyangjan. It will also elaborate on the assessment procedure to grant the high support need status.
- c. While considering implementation of any welfare scheme for the disabled, the high support need category will be given preference.

12. Corporate Social Responsibility:

- a. Maharashtra is the most industrialized state with Mumbai as the financial capital of the country. Therefore the corporates of Maharashtra can undertake projects in the field of disability as part of CSR
- b. The state will also encourage patronizing the products produced in workshops run by Divyangjan or societies formed by parents of persons with intellectual disability.
- c. The state shall also enable collaboration between Parent societies and Corporates for the design of products, cost optimum production, marketing support and sales outlets. The state will devise incentive schemes for the corporates to undertake above activities in a sustainable manner.
- d. Conduct specialized training for Divyangjan to absorb them in their in-house activities.
- e. Support capacity building of NGOs/ Parent Organizations for future expansion and sustenance.
- f. Encourage corporates to sponsor events and awareness generation activities across the state.

13. Social Protection

All Divyangjan should have right to social security which will include secure and adequate standard of living for self and family in terms of food security, Shelter, Housing, Social care. Therefore the state policy shall inter alia provide the following

- a. Living and care facilities for Divyangjan including children who are abandoned or found without shelter or unable to earn livelihood will get priority in aided special schools, Respite Care and Group Homes.
- b. Care giver allowance to Divyangjan where care giver or escort is necessary at all times
- c. Allotment of food under the PDS to the family of the Divyang by considering him a BPL member.

14. Sports, Recreation and Cultural Activity : The state will encourage participation of Divyangs in Sports, Culture, Recreation, Co-curricular and extra-curricular activities and will consider this as a major indicator of social integration and rehabilitation.

It will enable following

- a. Providing coaching facilities as well as services of sports teachers who understand needs of Divyangs.
- b. Make provisions in the state sports academy for training of coaches and sports teachers for Divyangs.
- c. Redesigning courses in cultural and arts subjects for accessibility of Divyangs
- d. Organizing specific programs for Divyangs in the fields of music, dramatics, theatre and languages at the District and the State level and also facilitate their participation at the National level.
- e. Enabling inclusion of Divyangs in recreational activities and sports by including multi-sensory essentials and features.
- f. Arranging visits and summer camps to cultural, scientific, geological and environment tourist places for divyangjan for necessary exposure. And also sponsoring visits to divyang related conferences.

15. Special Provisions for Divyang Girls and Women: The Divyang women and girls are doubly vulnerable to injustice being meted out inside and outside their homes hence the state policy will have following special provisions for them.

- a. The state as a policy shall provide comprehensive information and help line services to support Divyang women and girls and their families to prevent concealment, abandoning, neglect, segregation in relation to home and family life.
- b. Accommodation of requirements of Divyang women and provision of support mechanism for employment of single Divyangjan mothers in the form of extra maternity leave, flexible working hours, crèches and care takers for their babies and children.
- c. Suitable allowance shall be paid to single mothers of children with intellectual disability for upkeep. This shall be equal to pension admissible to Divyang adults.
- d. Special protection for Divyang women and priority in registering police complaint against all forms of exploitation, abuse, violence including physical mental sexual and emotional at all places including home, educational institutions, work place or government respite home.
- e. Women with disabilities will be empowered about their rights and duties. Empowerment means taking hold of personal strength and to share knowledge and power with others.
- f. Accessible, safe and confidential complaint mechanism to report instances of exploitation, abuse and violence by Divyang women and girls.
- g. Protection, counseling and support services for Divyang women and girls who have been victim of abuse, violence or exploitation of any kind

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- h. Enabling provisions such as monetary and job incentives for marriage of Divyang women on the basis of free and full consent.
- i. Enabling Divyang women to exercise their right to retain fertility and not being subjected to medical procedure that may lead to infertility or termination of pregnancy without her express consent.
- j. Enabling Divyang women to take own decision involving her reproductive rights and family planning freely and responsibly.

16. Plan and Budgetary Provisions

16(i) Utilization of 3% Budget

- a. The state government departments and local governments and establishment shall earmark at least 3% budgetary allocation and same shall be utilized for the early intervention care, education including special education, skill building, employment, building awareness, rehabilitation, empowerment and inclusion of Divyang in the social and economic mainstream.
- b. To ensure the implementation of stipulated budgetary allocation and utilization a review of annual budget allocation for activities concerning Divyangjan will be undertaken by the office of Commissioner of PwD with the help of competent experts.
- c. Feedback reports on implementation of planned provisions will be gathered for review by State Commissioner of PwDs.

16(ii) Monitoring Inter-Departmental Schemes for Divyangjan.

- a. The Commissioner of Divyangjan shall monitor planned allocations by ministries under Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Kalyaan (RBSK) Karyakram, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan, Welfare of Divyang children/ ICDS, Allocations under MAHADA schemes, Accessibility India/ NRUHM, Disability Pension/ Samaj Kalyan, Schemes of Department of Women & Child welfare and other inter departmental schemes.
- b. Not more than 70% of the State budget shall be allocated to aided Special Schools and further the budget shall be evenly allocated to districts in broad proportion to divyang population. The other social benefit schemes will also be given financial importance.
- c. Direct Benefit Transfer mechanism shall be used as far as possible for disbursing all aids, scholarships, pensions and incentives, and preference will be to the Divyang with high support needs. All such schemes shall be operated on-line end to end

17. Implementation Mechanism

- a. After formulation of State Advisory Board on Disability by the State Government as per provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2016 to the effective implementation of Policy related work will be done through State Advisory Board on

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Disability. At present Constituted State Coordination Committee and the State Executive Committee are works for the policy related work till the formulation of State Advisory Board.

- b. After formulation of State Advisory Board on Disability and District level Committee by the State Government as per provisions of the Rights of Persons with Disability Act 2016. Such State Advisory Board and District level Committee will look after Policy related work. At present Constituted District Level Committee for the effective implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunities, Protection of Right and fully participation)Act 1995 and local level committee under National Trust Act 1999 State Coordination Committee and the State Executive Committee works for the policy related work till the formulation of State Advisory Board and District Level Committee.
- c. The State Government will be appointed District Magistrate or representative of District Magistrate such as Deputy Collector or equivalent Officer to look after the policy related work of District Level Committee at District Level. Such type of Appointed Officer assist to implements the policy related work. He will Coordinate with Panchayat Raj Sanstha and Urban Local Level Department to implement the policy related work. Such type of Officer will act as work as effective Officer to assist Commissioner Disabilities at the District level .
- d. The State Advisory Board shall identify the indicators of development of Divyangjan and prepare Divyangjan Development Index. The same shall be incorporated in Human Development Report of the state.
- e. A Special committee under the Chief Minister will be constituted to monitor the implementation of this policy. The Special committee shall meet at least once in a year.

18. Office of State Commissioner of Persons with Disability

The Government of Maharashtra shall within 6 months of promulgation of this policy prescribe rules laying down qualifications for the appointment of State Commissioner for Divyangjan. The appointment should be for a fixed period of 3 years. The State Commissioner shall have powers and responsibility as per Section 80 to 85 of Rights of Persons with Disability 2016.

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