

**Report on Activities of Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, West Bengal**  
**as on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2011**

**Issuance of Disability Certificate & Identity Card**

Medical Boards of District Hospitals, Sub-Divisional Hospitals and four teaching hospitals issue Disability Certificate to Persons with Disability. WCD & SW Department issue Identity Card.

Special drive for issuance of certificate to the Persons with Disabilities was launched from during 2010-11 in all the districts. 596 Medical Boards were held in which 1,08,344 persons were issued disability certificates and identity cards.

Identity cards issued as on 31.03.2010 Cumulative	Identity cards issued during 2010 - 11					Identity cards issued as on 31.03.2011 TOTAL
	OH	MR	MI	VH	HI	
	50,866	20,318	16	18,041	19,103	7,20,871

Identity cards issued as on 31.03.2011 Cumulative	Identity cards issued during April-October 2011					Identity cards issued as on 31.10.2011 TOTAL
	OH	MR	MI	VH	HI	
	13,570	3,678	12	5,651	6,264	7,50,046

76 Special Medical Camps held at block/ward level for identification & certification of persons with disabilities between April and October 2011 (including 8 Special Medical Camps held in Junglemahal area) in which **29,175** persons were issued disability certificates and identity cards.

Identity Cards issued as on 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2011

OH	MR	MI	VH	HI	Total
3,55,183	1,36,639	65	1,25,569	1,32,590	7,50,046

In addition 3,03,996 persons were examined in the Medical Boards and whose degree of disability was below 40%.

**Education :**

WCD & SW Department award scholarship to 5,000 students with disabilities studying below class IX @ Rs. 300/- per month.

Programme of School Education Department under Paschim Banga Sarva Siksha Mission (PBSSM) :

Special Children Identified	Special Children Enrolled in Normal Schools	Number of Special Educators engaged SSM
2,72,176	2,52,354	1,509



- 185 Special Schools are run by NGOs covering more than 9,000 children with special needs
- 72 Special Schools are study centre under National Institute of open Schooling/ Rabindra Mukta Vidyalya.
- Mass Education Extension Department award scholarship to 2,500 students with disabilities from class IX onwards.
- Paschim Banga Sarva Siksha Mission provide scholarship to 18,083 Students with Special Needs under IEDSS.

#### Orientation and Training of Sarva Siksha Mission :

Orientation of Manpower :

Teachers trained on ED issues	Special Educators Persons of Family	Kye Resource with Special Needs	Parents of Children with Special Needs	ICDS Functionaries Committee	Village Education Committee	Ward Education Committee
2,93,133	1,400	9,965	63,241	51,168	95,756	10,920

#### Employment :

- 12 Departments of Government of West Bengal identified jobs for persons with disabilities.
  - West Bengal Public Service Commission waived examination fee for persons with disabilities.
  - 762 persons with disabilities are given loan under National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation (NHFDC).
  - Placement of persons with disabilities by Employment Exchange in last 3 years
- | Category of persons with disabilities | 2008      | 2009      | 2010      |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Orthopaedically Handicapped           | 17        | 18        | 22        |
| Hearing Impaired                      | 06        | 07        | 05        |
| Visually Handicapped                  | 04        | 04        | 06        |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>27</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>33</b> |

#### Barrier Free Environment :

- Important public buildings have been made accessible for persons with disabilities, like; Writers' Buildings, Nandan a Govt. Auditorium, Purta Bhavan, Commissioner (Disabilities) Office, Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Bikash Bhavan, University of Calcutta, Kolkata Medical College & Hospital, Jadavpur University, Rabindra Bharati main campus, South 24 Parganas Collectorate, Kolkata Corporation and Heritage buildings of Kolkata are in the process of being made accessible to persons with disabilities.
- School Education Department & Sarva Siksha Mission have created barrier free environment in more than 52,000 by constructing Ramps with Handrail through out the state
- 237 schools have been provided with disabled friendly toilets under Inclusive Education of Disabled of SSA & PBSSM.



**Registration of NGOs under Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 :**

- 462 Non Government Organisations registered under Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 are working for Persons with Disabilities in the state. The registration certificate is issued by the Commissioner (Disabilities), West Bengal which is to be renewed after three years.

**Grievance Redressal :**

Nature of cases dealt in the Court of Commissioner (Disabilities)

- Non-implementation of 3% reservation in Educational Institutions
- Non-implementation of 3% reservation in appointments
- Denial of free travel in transports
- Denial of facilities/concessions to Government employees and their wards with disabilities
- Transfer of parents of child with special need and employee with disability

**Report of Grievance Redressal as on 31.03.2011 :**

• Number of complaints filed	: 1690
• Number of cases taken up suo moto by Commissioner	: 150
• Number of total cases	: 1840
• Number of cases disposed of	: 1818
• Number of cases pending	: 22

**Report of Grievance Redressal from April – October 2011 :**

• Number of complaints filed	: 256
• Number of cases taken up suo moto by Commissioner	: 07
• Number of total cases	: 263
• Number of cases disposed of	: 254
• Number of cases pending	: 09

**Three Mobile Courts of the Commissioner (Disabilities) were held in the year 2010-11. Six Mobile Courts are proposed to be held during the current financial year out of which two Mobile Courts will be held in Janglemahal area.**

**Prosthetic Aids & Appliances :**

- WCD & SW Department provided 1237 persons with disabilities with Rehabilitation Aids and Appliances like; wheel chair, tri-cycle, hearing aid, crutches, sewing machine & musical instruments.
- Twenty four distribution camp of Prosthetic Aids & Appliances was organised at District level including one distribution camp in Janglemahal area.

**Legal Guardianship under National Trust Act, 1999 :**

- Number of Local Level Committees under National Trust Act : 20
- Number of persons with Mental Retardation, Cerebral Palsy, Autism and Multiple Disabilities provided with legal guardian : 6,247
- Two legal guardian meets held at Kolkata and Bankura.

**Awareness Programmes :**

- 19 Programmes at the district level to observe International Day of the Persons with Disabilities and one State level programme at Kolkata.



- 10 Workshops/Seminars were held at district/ sub-divisional level.
- One State Consultation was held on Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Draft bill, 2011 in February, 2011
- One Workshop on United Nations Convention of Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) held at Kolkata
- 5 Awareness Programmes at block level were organised in collaboration with NGOs on PWD Act, 95 and NT Act, 99.
- Badhte Kadam, an Awareness Campaign covering 13 districts of this state on various aspects of PWD Act, NT Act and UNCRPD was organised in collaboration with State Nodal Agency Centre i.e. Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy, Kolkata. The Rally was flagged off by Smt. Sabitri Mitra, Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge WCD & SW Deptt. Govt. of West Bengal on 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 at Metro Channel, Kolkata.

#### **Social Security :**

- WCD & SW Department provide Disability Pension @ Rs. 750/- per month to 40,276 persons with disabilities every year.
- Panchayat & Rural Development Department provided Disability Pension @ Rs. 400/- per month to more than 19,000 persons with severe disability under Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS).
- 1586 persons with disabilities are benefited under Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) being implemented by Panchayat & Rural Development Department.

#### **Miscellaneous :**

- District Magistrate of all the districts has been declared as the Additional Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.
- Handicap International, an NGO has undertaken a Project on Disaster Management of Persons with Disabilities during natural calamities in Sagar Islands of South 24 Parganas in coordination with the office of the Commissioner (Disabilities), WB.
- State Awards are conferred in the categories of Best employee/self-employed, Role Model, Best Educational Institution, Creation of Barrier free environment, Best Placement officer/Employer, Best Braille Press, Best district etc to individuals, organisation working for persons with disabilities for their outstanding achievements in the field.
- Scheme of Economic Rehabilitation Grant is revised and the economic assistance has been enhanced up to Rs. 10,000/- is given to adult persons with disabilities belonging to families in the low income bracket for pursuing a vocation/trade that will help him/her in economic rehabilitation.
- Life long family pension to the disabled dependent son and daughter of government employee and school-teacher and non-teaching employees who cannot earn their livelihood.
- State legal Service Authority organise Lok Adalats at Barasat, North 24 Parganas in September, 2011.