



Quarterly Programmatic Report

Creating a National Resource Kit of Laws, Policies
and Programs for Person with Disabilities

**August 2012
to
November 2012**

Creating a National Resource Kit of Laws, Policies and Programs for Person with
Disabilities: Quarterly Report

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Creating a National Resource Kit of Laws, Policies and Programs for Person with Disabilities: Quarterly Report

Highlights

- The Centre for Internet & Society (CIS) received a grant of INR 54,83,200 from the Hans Foundation for Creating a National Kit of Laws, Policies and Programs for Persons with Disabilities on August 16, 2012.
- CIS recruited Anandhi Vishwanathan and Shruti Ramakrishna through a MoU signed with the Centre for Law and Policy Research (CLPR). Shruti Ramakrishna is reporting to Jayna Kothari, Senior Partner at CLPR and Board Member at CIS and Anandhi Vishwanathan is working with Nirmita from the CIS office.
- CIS sent right to information (RTI) applications to 18 states seeking information on laws, policies, programmes, schemes and other initiatives for persons with disabilities.
- Early draft chapters on Kerala and Karnataka have been prepared. The Department of Differently-abled and Senior Citizens located in Bangalore was contacted for procuring documents related to employment, education and training, rehabilitation and social security in Karnataka.
- In Kerala, communication has been established with the Social Welfare Department, Directorate of Social Welfare and Commissionerate for Persons with Disabilities.

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Introduction

Starting from August 2012, CIS began sourcing and gathering information on the national disability laws, policies and programmes in all the states and union territories from various state departments and non-governmental organisations. The information collated will be eventually compiled as a national resource kit (which will serve as a single point reference) and distributed to state departments and NGOs in all states and union territories in English and Hindi.

Government Communication

CIS sent letters to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and various ministries of states and union territories providing information about the project and seeking their cooperation on providing relevant documents of laws, schemes, programmes, guidelines, circulars, notifications and other relevant materials related to persons with disabilities. The letters were dispatched to the following:

- The Secretary, Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment on September 19, 2012.
- Secretaries and Commissioners (Disabilities) in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal, and the union territories of Andaman & Nicobar, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, Lakshadweep and Pondicherry, on October 3, 2012. The detailed list is given below as Annexure A from page 5 to 8.

Highlights of Karnataka Chapter

An early draft chapter on Karnataka has been done. The research shows that there is no separate legislation containing provisions for persons with disabilities in Karnataka. It instead intermittently issues various schemes and policies providing a variety of benefits for persons with disabilities apart from following the broad mandate under the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. The Department of Differently-abled and Senior Citizens located in Bangalore was contacted for procuring documents related to employment, education and training, rehabilitation and social security. Excerpts from the chapter are given below as Annexure B on page 8.

Highlights of Kerala Chapter

The government implements various schemes for Persons with Disabilities. There are eight schemes for financial assistance, which form a major part, followed by six for employment, four for rehabilitation, and four for education including scholarships. Communication has been established with the Social Welfare Department, Directorate of Social Welfare and Commissionerate for Persons with Disabilities. Two notifications available on the website of the department pertain to reservations in employment with clarifications. Information has also been sought from governmental and non-governmental disability welfare organisations and social workers in Kerala. Application under RTI was filed with the Public Information Officer on November 9, 2012, the response is awaited. Excerpts from the chapter are given below as Annexure C from page 9 to 10.

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RTI Applications

CIS sent RTI applications to 15 states and 3 union territories seeking information on the laws, policies, programmes, schemes and other initiatives for persons with disabilities. Letters addressed to the Public Information Officer, Social Welfare Department were sent to Bihar, Jharkhand and Kerala on November 9, 2012, and Andhra Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Lakshadweep, Maharashtra, Orissa, Pondicherry, Punjab, and Uttarakhand on November 14, 2012. A sample RTI application is given as Annexure D on page 10 and the list of ministries to which this was sent is given as Annexure E from page 11 to 12.

Annexure A - List of Chief and State Commissioners for Disabilities

1. Chief Commissioner
C/o Chief Commissioner for People with Disabilities,
Sarojini House, 6, Bhagwan Dass Road,
New Delhi – 110 001
2. Commissioner, Disabled Welfare
Govt. of Andhra Pradesh
6th Floor Chandra Vihar, M.J.Road,
Nampally, Hyderabad – 500 001, Andhra Pradesh.
3. Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Social Justice & Empowerment Dept., Govt. of Gujarat,
Old Vidhan Sabha Building, I floor,
Sector 17, Gandhinagar – 382 017.
4. Principal Secretary/ Commissioner (Disabilities)
Dept. of Social Welfare, Govt. of Assam,
Assam Secretariat (Civial), Dispur, Guwahati – 781 006.
5. Commissioner (Disabilities) & Secretary Social Welfare,
Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate, 4th level,
C Wing, New Delhi – 110 002.
6. Secretary Social Welfare & Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Public Works Dept., H.O., Altinho, Panaji, Goa - 403 001.
7. Secretary/ Commissioner (Disabilities)
Social Welfare Dept., Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar – 791 111.
8. Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Social Justice & Empowerment,
Govt. of Haryana, SCO No. 68-70,
Sector 17/A, Chandigarh
9. Secretary/ Commissioner (Disabilities)
Commissioner (Disabilities) & Secretary,
Dept. of Social, Women & S.C.
Welfare, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh,
Shimla – 171 002.

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10. Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Principal Secretary and Social Welfare
Dept., J & K Civil Secretariat, Jammu
11. Secretary Women and Child Dev. & Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Govt. of Karnataka, No.40, Thambushetty Road, Cox Town,
Bangalore – 560 005.
12. Commissioner & Ex-Officio
Secretary to Govt.
Govt. of Kerala,
R. No.113, Secretariat Annexe, Thiruvananthapuram – 12
13. Commissioner Disabilities
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh,
A-39, Professor Colony, Civil Lines,
Purana Post Office, Bhopal – 462 003
14. Commissioner Disabilities
Govt. of Maharashtra,
3, Church Road, Pune – 411 001
15. Secretary Social Welfare and Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Old Secretariat, Govt. of Manipur,
Imphal – 795 001
16. Secretary & Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Social Welfare Dept.,
Andaman & Nicobar Administration, Port Blair
17. Secretary Social Welfare and Commissioner (Disabilities)
Govt. of Mizoram, Mizoram Civil Secretariat, Block D,
Aizwal 796 001.
18. Secretary and Commissioner (Disabilities)
Dept. of Social Welfare, Women and Child Development,
Nagaland Civil Secretariat,
Govt. of Nagaland, Kohima – 797 001.
19. Commissioner, (Disabilities)
C/o Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Govt. of Punjab, Room
No.527, 5th Floor, Punjab Mini
Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh.
20. Secretary & Commissioner (Disabilities)
Social Welfare Dept., Chandigarh Administration, Sector 17,
Chandigarh – 160 019.
21. Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Ambedkar Bhawan, Behind Pant
Krishi Bhawan, Bhagwan Das Road, Jaipur.
22. Secretary & Commissioner,
Social Welfare Dept.,
Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok

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23. Commissioner for Persons with Disability,
Social Welfare Dept, Collectorate,
U T of Daman & Diu, Daman – 396 220.
24. Commissioner, (Disabilities)
1033, Indira Bhawan,
Lucknow.
25. Commissioner, (Disabilities) & Jt. Secretary Women & Child Dev.,
Ministry of Social Justice, Govt. of West Bengal,
45, Ganesh Ch. Avenue,
Kolkata – 700 013.
26. Secretary & Commissioner (Disabilities),
Social Welfare Dept.,
Govt. of Pondicherry, Pondicherry.
27. Director, Social Welfare & Commissioner, (Disabilities)
Social Welfare Dept.,
Administration of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Via-Vapi, Western Rly,
Silvassa (PO).
28. Director & Commissioner (Disabilities)
Social Justice & Empowerment & Culture, Lakshadweep, Administration,
Kavaratti.
29. Secretary & Commissioner (Disabilities)
Social Welfare & Social Edn. Dept.,
Govt. of Tripura, Agartala – 799 001.
30. Secretary/ Commissioner,
Social Welfare Dept, Govt. of Bihar,
Patna – 800 001
31. Commissioner Disabilities
Govt. of Meghalaya,
Social Welfare Dept., Additional
Secretariat Building
Shillong – 793 001
32. Secretary, Women & Child Development and Commissioner (Disabilities)
Govt. of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar – 751 001
33. The Special Commissioner for Disabilities
C/o The Special Commissioner for Disabilities,
15/1, Model School Road,
Thousand lights, Chennai – 600 006
34. Secretary Social Welfare & Commissioner Disabilities
Sachivalaya Uttaranchal, FRDC Social Welfare, Rajpur Road,
Dehradun, Uttaranchal.

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35. Commissioner Disabilities
Nirmala STD PCO, Baniya Para,
Durg – 491 001, Chattisgarh
36. Commissioner Disabilities & Director
Social Welfare Department,
Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi,
Jharkhand

Annexure B - Karnataka Chapter

Government notifications, schemes and policies have been collected under the following heads:

Sl. No.	Category	No. of Documents
1	Education	18
2	Employment and Training	15
3	Rehabilitation	3
4	Social Security	16
5	Miscellaneous Schemes	12

The Department for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens located in Bangalore was contacted for the purpose of collecting the above government documents.

Education: The government provides for reservation for persons with disabilities in various government and government-aided educational institutions. The PWD Act provides for a mandatory reservation of 3 per cent in all government and government aided education institutions. The government in addition to reservation also provides for other benefits such as:

- Extra time in exams for visually impaired persons
- Exemption of 2nd and 3rd language for visually impaired students
- Provision of Scribe for visually impaired children

Employment: The government provides for 3 per cent reservation for disabled candidates. In addition other benefits are also provided such as:

- Exemption of Professional Tax to disabled persons
- Training and Employment Programme for disabled youth

Rehabilitation: The government has initiated certain programs such as Rural Rehabilitation Programme for Disabled Persons (NPRPD) and 'Manasa Kendra' for mentally ill persons.

Social Security: The Social Security schemes issued by the government include certain preferential allotment of housing to disabled persons and reservations in various poverty alleviation programs, government housing schemes etc.

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Annexure C - Excerpt from the Chapter on Kerala

Programmes / Schemes

The Department of Social Welfare has implemented the following central and state schemes:

Central Schemes

Grant-in-aid under the Deen Dayal Disabled Scheme

Assistance to disabled persons for purchasing or / fitting aids and appliances

National award for the best disabled employees and the institutions employing them

State Schemes:

Institutions for the welfare of the disabled

State awards to best employees, employers and institutions for the Differently Abled

World Disabled Day celebrations

Marriage assistance to Differently Abled women and daughters of Differently Abled parents

Community based rehabilitation programme for the Differently Abled

Distress relief fund for the disabled

Grant-in-aid to voluntary organisations running homes for the Differently abled

Financial assistance to blind and orthopedically disabled advocates

Vocational training centres for the disabled

Scholarships for disabled students

Scholarships for mentally challenged students

The Kerala State Handicapped Persons Welfare Corporation has implemented some of the schemes introduced by the Kerala government. These are:

- Free distribution of aids and appliances
- Subsidy for Self-employment Assistance Scheme (Bank loan subsidy)
- Subsidy for Motorized Tricycle
- Proficiency Award to differently abled persons – Students with Disabilities
- Financial Assistance to disabled Lottery Agents
- Loans for self-employment assistance from National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC)
- Fixed Deposit Scheme for severely disabled children
- Promotion of Self-Help Groups
- Old Age Home at Parassala

Notifications / Circulars / Guidelines

State rules for Kerala w.e.f. 30-6-2000 was gazetted as SRO No. 603/2000 in the Kerala gazette extra ordinary No. 1271 dated 30-6-2000.

Government Orders

- Government Order for Public Services Reservations for Physically Handicapped Persons – three per cent reservation for Class III and Class IV posts.
Issued by: Personnel and Administrative Reforms (Advice) Department
G.O. (P)No.20/98/P&ARD
Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 14 July, 1998
- Government Order for Reservation of three per cent vacancies in Class I and two posts in Public Services for appointment of physically disabled persons G.O. (RT) No. 291/2012/SWD.
Dated, Thiruvananthapuram 20th June 2012

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This order has been issued in clarification to earlier orders issued for identification of posts for Persons with Disabilities.

Annexure D - RTI Application

9th November 2012

The Public Information Officer,
Department of Social Welfare, Kerala

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: Information required on the Laws, Policies, Programmes, schemes and other initiatives for Persons with Disabilities in Kerala

The Centre for Internet and Society,¹ an independent non-profit research organisation based in Bangalore, is engaged in a project to compile a National Resource Kit on various laws, policies, programmes, schemes, notifications, circulars, etc., which have been created for persons with disabilities in all states and union territories in India². The project is supported by the Hans Foundation, a charitable trust fund created to provide a source of endowment for not-for-profit organizations in the areas of disability, education and health care.

We require information regarding the various laws, policies, programmes, schemes, notifications, circulars, guidelines, government orders and any other materials regarding Persons with Disabilities in Kerala. Please provide us with the required information and with copies of these documents. As I am a visually impaired person, please also provide electronic copies of these documents as they will be accessible to me. Please provide English translations of documents in Malayalam wherever applicable.

If any relevant information is available in the public domain on the internet, please point us to the information and provide copies of the same.

Thanking you

Yours sincerely

Anandhi Viswanathan

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Website: www.cis-india.org

1. <http://cis-india.org>

2. <http://cis-india.org/accessibility/creating-a-national-resource-kit-for-persons-with-disabilities>

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Annexure E - List of Ministries

1. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,
Government of Bihar, Dept. of Social Welfare,
Sinchai Bhawan, Old Secretariat, Patna - 800 015
Ph: 0612-2215041
Public Information Officer, Disabilities, Govt. of Jharkhand,
Engineers' Hostel, Ground Floor, Sector - III, H.E.C. Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand -
834 004
Ph: 0651-2401825
2. Public Information Officer, Disabilities, Govt. of Jharkhand, Engineers' Hostel,
Ground Floor, Sector - III,
H.E.C. Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand - 834 004
Ph: 0651-2401825
3. Public Information Officer for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Kerala,
1st Floor, Govt. VTC Building, Social Welfare Institution Complex,
Thiruvananthapuram-12.
Ph: 0471-2347704
4. Public Information Officer, Disabilities Govt. of Maharashtra
3, Church Road, Pune – 411001
Ph: 020-26122061
5. Public Information Officer, Disabilities, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh 6th floor,
Chandra Vihar M.J. Road, Nampally
Hyderabad – 500001
Ph: 040-24619048
6. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,
Dept. of Social Justice & Empowerment,
Govt. of Gujarat, Old Vidhan Sabha Building
1st floor, Near Town Hall, Sector –17,
Gandhinagar – 382017
Ph: 079-23256746
7. Public Information Officer, Women & Child Development and Commissioner
Disabilities, Government of Orissa,
Bhubaneswar – 751001
Ph: 0674-2536775
8. Public Information Officer, Social Welfare and Commissioner Disabilities,
Government of Punjab,
Room No.607, 6th floor, Mini Secretariat, Sector – 9, Punjab, Chandigarh
Ph: 0172-2742307
9. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,
Jila Panchayat Bhawan
Durg – 49100, Chattisgarh
Ph: 0788-2325470
10. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,

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Social Welfare Dept. Jammu & Kashmir,
Civil Secretariat, Jammu
Ph: 0191-2542759

11. Public Information Officer, Disabilities
Social Justice & Empowerment
Govt. of Haryana
SCO No.68-70, Sector –17 A,
Chandigarh
Ph: 0172-2548387
12. Public Information Officer, Social Welfare Department,
Disabilities Public Works Dept., Head office,
Altinho, Panaji, Goa – 403001
Ph: 0612-2211718
13. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,
Dept. of Social Justice & Empowerment,
Govt. of Himachal Pradesh
Old Vidhan Sabha Building
1st floor, Near Town Hall
Shimla – 171002
Ph: 0177-2621867
14. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,
Social Welfare Department, Govt. of N.C.T. of Delhi,
Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Estate,
4th Level, 'C' wing,
New Delhi-110002
Ph: 011-23392075
15. Public Information Officer (Disabilities)
Social Welfare Dept.,
Govt. of Pondicherry, Pondicherry
Ph: 0413-2334143
16. Public Information Officer,
Disabilities, Social Welfare Dept.,
Collectorate U.T. of Daman & Diu,
Daman – 396220
Ph: 0260-2230854
17. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,
Social Justice & Empowerment & Culture,
Lakshadweep Administration, Kavaratti
Ph: 03192-233364
18. Public Information Officer, Disabilities,
Department of Social Welfare, Govt. of Uttarakhand,
100, Old Nehru Colony, Dehradun
Ph: 0135-2711103