

Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir Social Welfare Department, Civil Secretariat, J&K

Subject: Record Note of the meeting regarding Assistance to Disabled Persons for purchase/fitting of aids/appliances (ADIP) Scheme.

A meeting was held under the Chairpersonship of Ms. Shee.al Nanda, Commissioner/Secretary to Government, Social Welfare Department, J&K on 29th of August, 2022 in her office Chamber to review scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase of Aids and Appliances (ADIP).

The following members attended the meeting:

- 1. Ms. Rachna Sharma, Secretary in the Social Welfare Department, J&K.
- 2. Ms. Vivek Sharma, Director General, Social Welfare, Jammu.
- 3. Mr. Mohammad Shafiq Chak, Director Social Welfare, Kashmir.
- 4. Mr. Ishfaq Ahmad, Executive Director, Rehabilitation Council, J&K.

At the outset, the Chairperson discussed the features of the ADIP sche ne with all the members and expressed her concern for the fact that the UT has not been able to take adequate advantage of the scheme. The only agency for implementation of the scheme in the UT has been Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO). While ALIMCO has been holding camps in various areas and distributing assistive devices also, there has neither been regular reporting from them nor regular monitoring of their activities by the Social Welfare Department. Also, their activities in Kashmir Division have been on the lower side. The issues regarding pendency of UDID cards and non-availability of concrete data regarding the number of Divyagjans in the UT and the kinds of disabilities they suffer from were also discussed. After detailed discussions and deliberations the following decisions were taken:

1. Director General, Social Welfare Jammu, Director Social Welfare Kashmir and Executive Director Rehabilitation Council would hold regular interactions with ALIMCO officials. Director, Kashmir would particularly ensure enhancement of numbers of camps held and assistive devices distributed by ALIMCO. Executive Director, Rehabilitation Council was directed to ensure monthly district wise data collection regarding number of camps held by ALIMCO, no. of divyagjans identified along with kinds of disabilities they are suffering from and the number and kinds of assistive devices distributed.

- 2. It was also decided that since the Social Welfare Department is committed to ensure Panchayat wise saturation of distribution of assistive devices, an action plan in this regard shall be chalked out by both Directors Social Welfare and a roster for ALIMCO camps shall be prepared so that saturation can be achieved by the end of this financial year.
- 3. Executive Director, Rehabilitation Council shall undertake an exercise of compiling the total number of Disability Certificates issued in manual form till date by district health officials with complete details regarding kinds of disability and their percentage. He will also follow up with all Chief Medical Officers (CMOs) for expeditious issuance of all UDIDs. He will also compile basic data about the number and types of disabilities in J&K.
- 4. The Administrative Department shall take up with Health Department regarding designating any Hospital(s) as the implementing agency under the scheme. Director, Kashmir would check if Composite Regional Centre (CRC), Kashmir is already designated as implementing agency under the scheme and if not, then it should be recommended. Both Directors shall ensure DDRCs are set up at the earliest and thereafter they are also designated as implementing agencies. The already functional DDRCs should also be roped in the implementation of the scheme.
- 5. The Chairperson observed that there are several benefits under the scheme which are available on case to case basis but the UT is not recommending any beneficiary for the same. Also several special devices like Braille laptops, readers etc. are available for the visually impaired which are not being provided to them despite availability of readily identified beneficiaries. Executive Director Rehabilitation Council was directed to look into this aspect and ensure the special assistive devices are made available to the visually impaired.

In the end, the Chair exhorted all officers to pay more attention to this sector and directed them to work in the direction in a more focussed and planned manner.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Kamlesh Rani)

Additional Secretary to the Government,

Social Welfare Department

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Copy to the:

- 1. Director General, Social Welfare, Jammu for information and n/a.
- 2. Director Social Welfare, Kashmir for information and n/a.
- 3. Executive Director, Rehabilitation Council, J&K for information and n/a.
- 4. Incharge Website, Social Welfare Department.
- 5. Stock file.