**No. Acad.III/PQ/1057/2014/ 18th December, 2014**

Shri S. K. Mahto

Under Secretary (DD-1)

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Deptt. Of Disability Affairs

**NEW DELHI-110003**

Sub: Material for reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question Diary No. 18618 for answer on 23.12.2014 asked by Shri Ajay Nishad regarding “Welfare Schemes for Differently Abled”.

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your e-mail dated 17.12.2014 on the subject cited above.

As desired, we forward herewith the draft material to the aforesaid Lok Sabha Starred question for further action at your end.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

**(UMAKANT AGARWAL)**

Deputy Registrar (Academic)

**Encl:** As above.

CC:

* PS to Registrar --- For kind information of the Registrar.

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**Material for reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question Diary No. 18618 for answer on 23.12.2014 asked by Shri Ajay Nishad regarding “Welfare Schemes for Differently Abled”.**

**Q. (a) The details of Schemes launched by the Government for the welfare of people with disability, Public Works Department (PWD) in the Country;**

Reply(a) The JNU has received financial support from the UGC under Higher Education for Persons with Special Needs (HEPSN) and the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MSJ&E) under Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA) for the welfare of people with disability.

**Q. (b) The total number of Central University that have been made disabled friendly by the Government, till date?**

Reply(b) The JNU Campus is spread over 1019.38 acres of land which is largely undulated terrain. It is practically difficult to make this big land parcel / ridge area completely disabled friendly. It is also very difficult to carry out the total access audit of the entire campus from the viewpoint of making it completely disabled friendly on account of cost inputs. However, the JNU with fund support from UGC and MSJ&E has made efforts for making the habitable area disabled friendly such as Schools/Centres, Administrative Buildings etc. Consequently, JNU has been able to provide ramps, lifts, barrier free toilets etc., in school buildings, public utility facilities and hostels. The JNU also submitted a proposal for financial assistance to MSJ&E under SIPDA for implementation of provisions of PWD Act, 1995 and for developing JNU website accessible for persons with disabilities. The funds released by MSJ&E are being used for providing ramps, lifts, toilets and tactile flooring etc., in the 1st Phase through M/s RITES, the approved Project Management Consultant of the University executing the above works. Continuous efforts are made through Engineering Division, the Equal Opportunity Office and stakeholders like JNU Disabled Persons Association. This entire process is time taking and may require probably more than a year to achieve this task. The JNU has also provided facilities for visually impaired persons in Central Library including a Helen Keller Unit with supporting hardware and software. The task of making the entire JNU Campus disabled friendly is continuous and it needs support from the Government.

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