

1. Discuss the various initiatives of government of India to address the problems of people with disabilities.

The Indian demography has 2.2% of population as people with disabilities as per National Statistical Office. The Right of persons with disabilities act, 2016 envisages 21 types of physical and mental disabilities in order to broaden the meaning to do provide welfare schemes.

Divyang portal:

1. Divyang portal managed by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in order to digitalise and reduce the hardship of registration.
2. The portal includes issuance of certificates, provision of welfare DBT and also awareness generation.
3. Upto 2019, 90 lakh people has been benefited through Divyang portal for DBT.

Social Assistance Scheme:

1. Under Ministry of Rural Development, to provide ₹1000 per year.
2. It is an income support for around 1.3 crore disabled people below poverty level.
3. The assistance is beneficial for reducing Out of pocket expenditure in rural areas.

Provision of stents and life support equipments:

1. Ministry of Health gave 50:50 subsidy with states for providing stents supports.
2. Recently government allocated ₹300 crore for providing artificial leg implants and other stents.

Concerns and challenges:

1. Inclusion of Mental disability needs broad definition as South India has more depressed people.
2. Government awareness about stent provision should reach BPL people.
3. Social Assistance should include providing employment to people with disabilities.

Future Prospects:

1. Divyang portal should include all 2-2% population for better welfare scheme.
2. Disability training schemes should be given to government employees to reduce their inconvenience.