

**Press Information Bureau
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**

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Rehabilitation of Mentally Retarded Persons

The primary responsibility for programmes for rehabilitation and care of persons with disabilities lies with the State Governments as per entry No. 9 in the "State List." The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States in their rehabilitation, including mentally retarded children and adults. Under the Central Sector Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), financial assistance is provided to Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), on the recommendation of the concerned State Governments, for providing various services to such persons with disabilities including Special schools/residential schools/Vocational Training/Half Way Homes etc. Further, the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, mental retardation & multiple disabilities, is undertaking rehabilitation of mentally retarded adults through four State Governments namely-Haryana, Tripura, Chhattisgarh & Uttarakhand. The details of schemes being implemented by the National Trust are as under:

(i) National Trust is implementing a lifelong shelter & care scheme namely Group Home And Rehabilitation Activities Under National Trust Act For Disabled Adult (GHARAUNDA) in coordination with the 4 State Governments and 8 Registered Organizations in the country.

(ii) The Gharaunda centre established in collaboration with Govt. of Chhattisgarh is functional, while the Centres, in other 3 States, are at different stages of being established.

(iii) National Trust is also implementing a short and long term residential care scheme named Samarth for orphan children and others in collaboration with Registered Organisations of National Trust. Under this, 119 centers have been set up in the country.

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated by the National Trust for this purpose and out of which Rs. 30 lakh was released to the Government of Tripura in the year 2011-12.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development had introduced Swadhar scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances in September, 2002, in which mentally challenged women are also included. This scheme is implemented mainly through non-government organizations to provide training for the economic rehabilitation of women staying in Swadhar Homes.

The Government has since formulated a new scheme namely 'Swadhar Greh' merging existing Swadhar and Short Stay Home schemes with enhanced financial norms.

This information was given by the Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri P. Balram Naik in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha today.
