

**Press Information Bureau**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**  
16-February-2016 17:00 IST

**Distribution of Aids and Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities,  
conducted by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at Baramulla**

Composite Regional Centre, Srinagar (J&K) functioning under aegis of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India organized a three-day Special Mega Awareness cum assessment and distribution Camp for Aids and Assistive devices, here on Tuesday. Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, GoI, Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot was the chief guest for the event. Hon'ble Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar also graced the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion of the 101st Mega Camp conducted by the Ministry in the past one and a half-year period, Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot expressed his happiness over successfully organizing first such Mega Camp in Jammu & Kashmir and appreciated District Collector Smt Yasha Mudgal and the staff of Composite Regional Centre, Srinagar, for braving the odds of nature to successfully organize this Camp despite prevailing adverse weather conditions. This Camp, which is also one of the largest Social Welfare Camps ever to be held in the history of J&K witnessed a houseful presence of PwD beneficiaries, who turned out in large numbers at the Prof. Shawket Ali Stadium in the border district of Baramulla. Announcing the establishment of a Drug de-addiction centre Shri Gehlot said that a Special Cultural Programme for Children with Disabilities in Baramulla will be conceptualized with support from Government of India. He added that children with hearing and speech impairment will be screened for the innovative Cochlear implant surgery and high end Assistive devices manufactured by ALIMCO in collaboration with Ottobock (Germany), will also soon be provided to needy beneficiaries in the border district through CRC Srinagar.

Shri Krishan Pal Gurjar in his address appreciated the work of various NGOs, Indian Army personnel, volunteers and Departments like Indian System of Medicine (ISM) in J&K for wholeheartedly supporting this noble cause. He informed that nearly 1200 Persons and Children with Disabilities will receive approximately 2000 free-of-cost Aids and Assistive devices over the period of this 3-day Special Mega Camp.

The Mega Camp conducted by CRC Srinagar - in collaboration with the Government of Jammu and Kashmir and other National Institutes under the DEPwD witnessed the distribution of devices such as – BTE Hearing Aid (750 nos.), M R TLM Kits of NIMH (336 nos.) , Daisy Player (24nos.), Crutches (300 nos.), Braille Kit (100 nos), MSIED Kit (100 nos.), Walking stick (50 nos), Wheel Chair (Adult and Child) 120 nos, Low vision Devices (100 nos.), Smart Phone with Keyboard (5 nos.) , Folding Cane (10 nos), Smart Cane (22 nos.), Splint C/Foot (20 nos.). The Department of Health Services J&K conducted free medical check-ups / consultations with the Department of Indian System of Medicine (ISM) J&K providing free medical check-ups and medicine to the needy.

The 3-day camp will also play an important role in spreading awareness about various services, schemes devised by the Central government for empowering the Persons with Disabilities and for their inclusion in the mainstream. MLA Baramulla, Shri Javed Hassan Baig; MLA Gulmarg Mohd. Abbas Wani; Brigade Commander Brigadier Yogesh Chaudhary; Shri Mir Bashir, Nodal officer, CRC Srinagar and senior officials from District Administration, Baramulla were also present on the occasion.

\*\*\*\*\*