



ANNUAL REPORT

Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities
Government of Mizoram

FOR THE YEAR

2025 - 2026



pwds.mizoram.gov.in



ocfpwd@gmail.com



0389-2399213 / 0389-2398134



MC-3A, V.L Rema Building,
Opp. SBI Chaltlang Branch
Chaltlang Venglai
Aizawl, Mizoram

IT IS NOT THEIR DISABILITY BUT THE ABILITY THAT COUNTS



Kindness is the language which the Deaf can hear and the Blind can see.

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INTRODUCTION

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 was published in the Gazette of India, Extra, Pt. III, No. 59 dated 28th December, 2016 and came into force on 19th April, 2017. Accordingly, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017 was notified and came into force on 17th April, 2018.

Under the provision of Section 79 of the RPwD Act, 2016 the State Commissioner shall perform the following functions:

- Identify, suo motu or otherwise, provision of any law or policy, programme and procedures, which are in consistent with this Act, and recommend necessary corrective steps;
- Inquire, suo motu or otherwise deprivation of rights of persons with disabilities and safeguards available to them in respect of matters for which the State Government is the appropriate Government and take up the matter with appropriate authorities for corrective action;
- Review the safeguards provided by or under this Act or any other law for the time being in force for the protection of rights of persons with disabilities and recommend measures for their effective implementation;
- Review the factors that inhibit the enjoyment of rights of persons with disabilities and recommend appropriate remedial measures;
- Undertake and promote research in the field of the rights of persons with disabilities;
- Promote awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities and the safeguards available for their protection;
- Monitor implementation of the provisions of this Act and schemes, programmes meant for persons with disabilities;
- Monitor utilization of funds disbursed by the State Government for the benefits of persons with disabilities;
- Perform such other functions as the State Government may assign.

COMMISSIONER MESSAGE



It is my honour to serve as the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities. I am committed to working tirelessly to ensure that individuals with disabilities have access to the same opportunities and rights as every other member of our society.

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, (RPwD Act) brings in a clear affirmation of a rights based approach that implies that persons with disabilities are "rights-holders" with legal entitlements, and government institutions are not mere service providers but "duty bearers" with an obligation to deliver on people's human rights.

It is a moment of pride for me to present the 2025-2026 Annual Report. During the reporting year, we have made significant progress in the field of disability.

The achievements and progress is a result of hard work, dedication and perseverance of all the staff of the Office of the Commissioner Persons with Disabilities, Government of Mizoram and also all the people involved and those working in the field of disability.

**"It is not their disability
but the ability that counts"**

(VANLALDIKI SAILO)

Commissioner
Persons with Disabilities
Govt. of Mizoram

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER MESSAGE



It gives me great pleasure to present this Annual Report, which reflects our collective commitment and efforts to implement the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. Over the past years, we have worked tirelessly to ensure that all Persons with Disabilities have access to employment, education, health care and an accessible environment. These achievements are the result of close collaboration between office staff, Government Departments, civil society and various stakeholders at large.

While we have made significant progress, we recognize that much remains to be done. Our focus will continue to be on removing barriers and continue to strengthen policy implementation and enhance accessibility across all sectors.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all colleagues and stakeholders who have contributed to these achievements. Together, we will continue to strive and uphold the dignity, rights and opportunities of every Persons with Disabilities.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Lalruatkimi Vanchhawng'.

(LALRUATKIMI VANCHHAWNG)

Assistant Commissioner
Persons with Disabilities
Govt. of Mizoram

About Us

The Office of the State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities was established w.e.f 1st June, 2012. 12 (twelve) number of posts were created and approved by the meeting of the Council of Ministers held on 20th December, 2010. The main function of the State Commissioner is monitoring the implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 within the state of Mizoram.

Vision

To build an inclusive society in which equal opportunities are provided for the growth and development of Persons with Disabilities so that they can lead productive, safe and dignified lives.

Contact Us

House No. MC-3A, V.L Rema building, Opposite SBI Chaltlang Branch,
Chaltlang Venglai, Aizawl,
Website: www.pwds.mizoram.gov.in
E-mail: ocfpwd@gmail.com,
Contact: 0389- 2398134/ 2399213

Organisation Structure



Lalrinpuui
Minister for Social Welfare,
Women & Child Development



Vanlaldiki Sailo
Commissioner



Lalruatkimi Vanchawng
Assistant Commissioner



Research cum Prog. Asst.
(Post Vacant)



Lalrinmawii Varte
Assistant



C. Lalchhuanawmi
Sign Language Interpreter



UDC
(Post Vacant)



Stenographer
(Post Vacant)



Lalthanpuia Fanai
LDC



LDC
(Post Vacant)



Lalbiakmawia Hrahse
Driver



Lalthangzuala
Driver



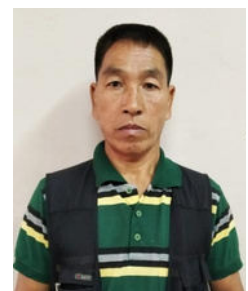
H. Hmingthanmawia
IV Grade



Laltanpuui
IV Grade



H. Lalrinsanga
IV Grade



Rothuama
IV Grade

*Action taken by Office of the State
Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities*

I. Appointment of Grievance Redressal Officer (GRO)

As per Section 23 (1) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, every Government Department is required to appoint Grievance Redressal Officer (GRO) under their respective Departments. Therefore, all Head of Department were requested to appoint GRO to monitor all matters relating to disability within their own Department.

The following officers have so far been appointed as Grievance Redressal Officer:-

Sl.no	Department	Name	Designation
1	Local Administration Dept (LAD)	Pu Alan Lalthanzara	Joint Director (A)
2	Transport	Pi Lalremruati	Deputy Director (Admn)
3	Commerce & Industries		Deputy Director (Admn)
4	Geology & Mining Resource	Pu R. Zirtluanga	Geologist Junior
5	Women & Child Devp. Dept.	Pi Lalmalsawmi	SO (N)
6	Sericulture	Pu C. Rozawna	Joint Director
7	Cooperative Societies	Pu H. Vanhlupaia	Deputy Registrar
8	Higher & Technical Education	Pu Lalhmingthanga	Joint Director (Admn)
9	Police Headquarters	Pu Lalthafamkima Jongte	AIGP (Operations)
10	Anti Corrupton Bereau	Pu J. Lalmuankima	Addl. SP
11	Disaster Mangement & Rehabilitation	Pu Kaste Romalsawma	Assistant Director (Ops)
12	Administrative Training Institute		Deputy Director (Admn)
13	Sports & Youth Services	Pu Lalngilneia Colney	Youth Welfare Officer
14	Sainik Welfare & Resettlement	Surg Lt Cdr Lalnuntluanga (Retd)	Director
15	Art & Culture Dept	Pu Lalchuailova	Deputy Director

16	Account & Treasuries	Pu Thara Lungtau	JointDirector (Admin)
17	Tourism	Pi Lalthakimi Pachuau	Deputy Director
18	Engineer-in-Chief, Public Works Dept		Superintendent
19	Planning & Prog. Implementation	Pu Robert Lalhruaitluanga	Superintendent
20	Prisons	Pu T. Ramzauva	Asst. Inspector General of Prisons
21	UD&PA	Pi Lalremruati	Deputy Director (Admn)
22	DC, Aizawl	Pu Isaac C. Lalrempuia	SDO (Sadar)
23	Commissioner of State Tax	Pu David Lalchhuanawma	Joint Commissioner of State Tax (A)
24	ICT	Pu Vanlalringa	Senior Informatics Officer
25	School Education Dept.	Pu Lalramthanga	Deputy Director (Admn)
26	PHE	Pu HB Chakma	Superintending Engineer
27	Animal Husbandary & Veterinary	Dr C. Lalzuitluanga	Deputy Director (VPH)
28	Land Revenue & Settlement	Pu Remlalliana	Deputy Director
29	Economic & Statistics	Pu Tawnthanzaua	Deputy Director (Admn)
30	Executive Engineer, PWD, Project Division – II	Pu Jimmy Vanlalsiama	SDO (TC)
31	Home Guard & Civil Defence Dept.	Pu C. Lalnunmawia	Dy Commandant General cum Joint Director, MRHG & CD
32	Chief Engineer, Roads, PWD	Er. Vanlalmuana Fanai	EO to CE
33	Soil & Water Conservation	Lalchhanhima	Dy. Director (Planning)

34	Pachhunga University College	Pi Lalsangkimi Sailo	HOD &Asst Prof.
35	E-in-C, PWD	Pi Lalrinpuui	Deputy Director (Admin)
36	Govt Zirtiri Resi. Science College	Prof. B. Zoliana	Principal
37	EE, PWD, Aizawl Road Division	Pi Rohlupii	DHA
38	Directorate, SWD	Pi Zorinpuui	Superintendent
39	Jordan Centre, Sethawn	Pi Ruth Vanlalsawmi	Centre Director
40	State Social Welfare & Rehabilitation Centre	Dr. R. Lalnunmawii	Superintendent
41	Dist. Social Welfare Office, Azl E	Pi F Lalngaihawmi	DSWO
42	Dist. Social Welfare Office Azl W	Pi Zodinthangi	DSWO
43	DSWO, Lunglei	Pu Ngurthanmawia Sailo	DSWO
44	DSWO, Siaha	Pi Gracy Lalchhanzuali	DSWO
45	RITC for Tribal Youth	Pi Lalrinhluii Sailo	Superintendent
46	Aizawl North College	Mr. Lallura Zote	Dept of History
47	Health Services	Dr. Lalremmawii	Jt. Director (FW)
48	IASE	Lalrinfeli khiangte	Asst. Professor
49	Printing & Stationery	Laldinfeli	Deputy Controller
50	FCS&CA	V. Laldinsanga	Joint Director (Admn)
51	Superintendent Engineer, PWD, Western Circle	Er K. Ramhlunsanga	Asst. Engineer
52	Labour, Employment, Skill Devp. & Entrepreneurship Dept	Dr. J.T Vanlalngheta	Joint Labour Commissioner

53	Mizoram Law College	Mrs. Zoparliani Khiangte	Asst Professor
54	Govt. Champhai College	Mrs. C.Lalnunpuii	Associate Professor
55	Govt. Lunglei College	Pu C. Lalthanpuia	Associate Professor
56	NIELIT	Shri R. Dengchhunga	Technical Officer
57	Govt. Johnson College	Lucy Vanlalhruii	Associate Professor
58	Aizawl West College	K. Lalmuanpuii	HOD, Dept of PA
59	Kolasib Division, PWD	Laldinthari	Head Assistant
60	St. Xavier's College	Fr. Alphonse Lepcha SJ	Vice Principal
61	Irrigation & Water Resource	Pu C Vanlalhruii	Dy Director (Admn)
62	Zoram Medical College	Pi C. Liankhumi	Superintendent
63	Hospital & Medical Education	Dr. Robert L. Khawlhing	State Nodal Officer (National Mental)
64	Govt. T. Romana College	Dr. Jasmine Lalremmawii	Associate Professor (Dept. of PA)
65	Mizoram College of Nursing	R. Lalruatkimi	Lecturer
66	E-in-C, Hmuifang division. PWD	Pu Challiansanga	Accounts Officer
67	DIET, Lunglei	Mary Vanlalawii	Lecturer
68	College of Nursing, Synod Hospital	Mrs. RC Lalrengpuii	Assistant Professor
69	Fisheries Department	Pi Lalmuanpuii	Superintendent
70	Govt. Hnahthial College	Pi Lalrinkimi	Asst. Professor (Mizo)
71	Govt. Lawngtlai College	Pi Ruth Lalrampuii	Assistant Professor
72	Govt. Kolasib College	Mr. Laltanpuia Rengsi	Associate Professor
73	Govt. Serchhip College	Mr. Ricky Lalsangzuala	Asst. Prof & Chairman
74	Govt. Aizawl College	Lalbiakzuala	Associate Professor

75	Election Commission	David L. Pachuau	Joint Chief Electoral Officer
76	E-in-Chief, PHE	B. Lalthantluanga Sailo	Deputy Director (Admn)
77	Home Guards & Civil Defence	Fabian Lalfakawma	District Commandant, MRHG & CD
78	AMC	Pi Baby Zohmingliani	Town Planner
79	SCERT	Pi Lalduhawmi Thomte	Dy Director (Language)
80	Science & Technology	Pu Edward Lalzuithanga	Scientific Officer
81	Rural Development	Pu K. Zohunsanga	Dy Director (Admin)
82	Forensic Science Laboratory	Pu Lalchhanzova	Assistant Director
83	Govt. Mamit College	Dr.A.I. Meetei	Associate Professor (Dept of Education)
84	PWD, EE, Siaha Division	Pu Perry Mihlo	SDO
85	FCS&CA (Legal Metrology Wing)	Pu Johny Ramngaia	Dy Controller
86	SE, PWD, Project Circle	Pi Laltlanmawii Sailo	Assistant Engineer

Conduct Of Access Audit To Provide Barrier Free Environment For Persons With Disabilities



II. Conduct of Access Audit to provide barrier free environment for Persons with Disabilities at District Level

The Commissioner and the Access Audit Team conducted assessments in all the eleven districts of Mizoram to evaluate barrier-free accessibility for persons with disabilities. The audit identified accessibility gaps, assessed compliance with standards, and aimed to promote inclusive infrastructure, equal access to public services, and improved quality of life.







III. Conduct of Access Audit to provide barrier free environment for Persons with Disabilities at Aizawl District

The Commissioner, along with the Access Audit Team, carried out an audit of schools, colleges, hospitals, public places, and government offices in Aizawl city to assess the availability of barrier-free environments for persons with disabilities. Recognizing that barrier-free infrastructure is essential for ensuring independence, dignity, safety, and equal access to education, healthcare, public services, and civic participation, the audit aimed to identify accessibility gaps and promote inclusive development for persons with disabilities.





IV. Conduct of Access Audit to provide barrier free environment for Persons with Disabilities at Special Schools in Aizawl

The Commissioner, in collaboration with the Access Audit Team, conducted a comprehensive accessibility assessment of special schools across Aizawl city. The purpose of this audit was to evaluate the extent to which these institutions provide barrier-free environments for persons with disabilities. Accessible infrastructure is not just an added benefit but a basic necessity. In special schools, barrier-free design allows students with disabilities to move independently, take part in all activities, and feel included and respected. Essential features like ramps, handrails, accessible toilets, clear signage, and safe pathways help create a safe and supportive environment. Improving accessibility reduces accident risks and ensures all students, regardless of ability, have equal access to education. By identifying gaps and suggesting improvements, the audit supports inclusive education and protects the rights of persons with disabilities to a safe and respectful learning environment.



Gilead Special School, Bawngkawn Brigade, Mizoram



Special Blind School, Durtlang, Mizoram



Govt. Primary School - II, Durtlang, Mizoram



Shining Star Special School, Republic Veng, Aizawl Mizoram



Ephatha Special School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, College Veng, Aizawl Mizoram

V. Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan), which aims to create a barrier-free and inclusive environment for persons with disabilities (PwDs) across the country

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India, has launched the Sugamya Yatra (Accessible Walk) initiative to be conducted across the country with the objective of assessing the accessibility of public places and buildings for persons with disabilities (PwDs). The Sugamya Yatra (Accessible Walk), led by the State Commissioner in collaboration with members from NILD, RC Aizawl, students of Aizawl West College, and the access audit team, was a successful initiative that effectively raised awareness and highlighted the importance of creating a barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities.



VI. Recognition of Academic Excellence: Dominic Vanlalpekhlua Honored for Outstanding HSLC Achievement

Dominic Vanlalpekhlua, a student with quadriplegia from Sihphir High School, was honored with a laptop and a citation in recognition of his outstanding performance in the High School Leaving Certificate Examination. He achieved distinction along with letter marks in English, Mathematics, Science, and Mizo. The award was presented by the Hon'ble Minister, SWD under an initiative of the Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Mizoram.



VII. New Appointment: Assistant Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities

Mrs. Lalruatkimi Vachhawng, Research cum Programme Assistant has been promoted to the position of Assistant Commissioner under the Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Mizoram. This advancement reflects her dedication, professionalism, and significant contributions to the welfare and empowerment of persons with disabilities.



*Mrs. Lalruatkimi Vachhawng
Assistant Commissioner*

VIII. Workshop on Identified Posts for Persons with Disabilities

The Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities conducted a workshop which focused on identifying posts appropriate for persons with benchmark disabilities. This effort is significant because it ensures that individuals with disabilities are placed in roles that suit their skills and capabilities, facilitating meaningful employment, fostering inclusive workplaces, and supporting their professional development and social engagement. Initiatives like this promote equal opportunities and help create a work environment where persons with disabilities can participate fully and contribute effectively.

IX. Logo Design Competition for the Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Mizoram

A formal competition was organized for the design of an official logo for the Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Mizoram. Mr. Jerry Lalramenga of Durtlang was selected as the winner through an anonymous voting process, in recognition of his outstanding creativity and originality in logo design. His submission was highly appreciated for its thoughtful concept and its effective representation of the vision and values of the office.



X. Visit to National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities, Divyangjan (NILD) Headquarter, Kolkata

National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (Divyangjan) recently welcomed the State Commissioner during an official visit to its headquarters in Kolkata. The visit focused on strengthening initiatives and policies related to the welfare, empowerment, rehabilitation, and inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs).

During the interaction, detailed discussions were held on improving accessibility, enhancing rehabilitation services, promoting inclusive education and employment opportunities, and ensuring the effective implementation of disability rights and welfare schemes. The officials also exchanged views on collaborative efforts to create a more accessible and supportive environment for Divyangjan across the state.

The visit highlighted the importance of coordinated action between government authorities and specialized institutions like National Institute for Locomotor Disabilities (Divyangjan) in advancing the rights, dignity, and overall well-being of Persons with Disabilities.



XI. 20 Days Training Programme on Basic Indian Sign Language Organised by Spastic Society of Mizoram in collaboration with Social Welfare Department, Mizoram

The Commissioner attended the inaugural session of the 20-day Basic Indian Sign Language Training Programme as Chief Guest, accompanied by Ms. C. Lalchhuanawmi, an Indian Sign Language Interpreter. The programme aims to build basic sign language skills, promote effective communication, and foster greater inclusion, accessibility, and awareness for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing.



XII. World Hearing Day- From Communities to Classroom/ Hearing Care for all Children

The Commissioner attended the World Hearing Day programme as Chief Guest, organized by the National Programme for Prevention & Control of Deafness (NPPCD) under the National Health Mission. The event highlighted awareness, early detection, prevention, and accessible hearing care to promote the healthy development and inclusive education of children with hearing impairment.



XII. World Day of the Deaf - "No Human Rights Without Sign Language Rights" & Inter School Speech Competition.

The Commissioner was invited to grace the occasion as Chief Guest at World Day of the Deaf - "No Human Rights without Sign Language Rights" & Inter School Speech Competition organized by National Programme for Prevention & Control of Deafness (NPPCD), National Health Mission.

The programme focused on promoting awareness about the rights of persons with hearing impairment, emphasizing the importance of sign language as a fundamental means of communication, and encouraging inclusive education and equal opportunities for all. The Inter School Speech Competition also aimed to inspire students to advocate for empathy, accessibility, and social inclusion for the deaf community.



XIV. International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 2025 - Fostering Disability-Inclusive Societies for Advancing Social Progress.

The Commissioner graced the programme as the Guest of Honour on International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 2025 – Fostering Disability-Inclusive Societies for Advancing Social Progress organized by Social Welfare Department, NILD, ZEP, ALIMCO and Directorate of Ayush, Mizoram.

The Commissioner graced the programme as the Guest of Honour on International Day of Persons with Disabilities, 2025 – Fostering Disability-Inclusive Societies for Advancing Social Progress organized by Social Welfare Department, NILD, ZEP, ALIMCO and Directorate of Ayush, Mizoram.



XV. Distribution Of Aids & Appliances for Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens Organised by Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation Of India (ALIMCO) in Collaboration with the Office Of The Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Govt. Of Mizoram

On 23 June 2026, a Distribution of Aids and Assistive Appliances for Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens programme was successfully organised by the Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) in collaboration with the Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Government of Mizoram, at the Office of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities. The programme was graced by the presence of Pi Lalrinpuii, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, Women & Child Development Department. A total of 95 senior citizens and persons with disabilities received assistive aids and appliances free of cost to support their daily living and enhance their quality of life. The programme was conducted successfully with the active participation and cooperation of all stakeholders.







Mr. Das Suryawanshi, State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Bangalore, Karnataka visited the Office of the State Commissioner for PwD, Mizoram

XVI. Short Video Clip on Role and Function of Grievance Redressal Officer

This office prepared a short video clip regarding the role and function of Grievance Redressal Officer as stated by Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. The video can be viewed on Youtube channel of State Commissioner for PwD, Mizoram.



Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016



*"There is no greater disability in society, than
the inability to see a person as more"*

Robert M. Hensel

XVII. Letter sent out to other Departments for implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016.

- A letter was sent to the Town Planner, AMC, requesting the inclusion and enforcement of provisions for a barrier-free environment and accessibility for Persons with Disabilities in all public buildings within their building regulations and guidelines.
- All District Deputy Commissioner (DC) were requested to collect data of Persons with Disabilities within their jurisdiction.
- A letter was sent to the Secretary of School Education Department regarding the Supreme Court's order in the writ petition to constitute a screening committee for the appointment of Special Teachers. A three-member committee was formed, comprising the SCPD, the Secretary of School Education Department, and representatives of the RCI.
- Secretary, Health & Family Welfare was requested to introduce the Special Health Care Scheme as mandated in RPwD Act, 2016.
- Letter was sent to all DPC Samagra Shiksha to collect the latest data of Children with Special Needs in their respective District.
- Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment was requested to take necessary action for strengthening the rehabilitation services of Divyangjan at the newly constructed building for the Centre for Disability Centre at MZU Campus.
- The newly appointed members of the Advisory Committee for the term 2024-2026 convened their first meeting on 11.04.2025.
- The post of Assistant Commissioner (Level 10) was created on 26.03.2025, and Mrs. Lalruatkimi Vachhawng was subsequently promoted to this position on 12.12.2025.
- The order regarding the re-designation of the Assistant Commissioner (Level 11) as Deputy Commissioner, PWD, was received.
- The State Commissioner sent a letter to the Commissioner and Secretary, the Registrar of Mizoram University, as well as the Chairpersons and Secretaries of the School and Higher Education Departments, requesting the inclusion of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 in the academic curriculum.

- The State Commissioner issued a letter to all Heads of Departments, Commissioners, and Secretaries addressing childcare support for parents of children with disabilities and those with special needs. The letter also covered matters related to the posting and transfer of employees with disabilities, parents of children with disabilities, and the organization of a workshop to review identified jobs suitable for persons with disabilities.
- The State Commissioner issued a letter to all Administrative Heads, Commissioners, and Secretaries of the Government of Mizoram, as well as local Tv channels like DDK, Zonet Cable TV, and LPS Cable TV, requesting the engagement of Sign Language Interpreters to support and benefit individuals with hearing impairments.
- A letter was sent to Presbyterian Church, Baptist Church, Salvation Army, etc. requesting that all church buildings be made barrier-free and accessible, and that this directive be communicated to all local churches.
- The details of seven individuals who had completed their Diploma in Indian Sign Language Interpretation course were sent to various government departments in order to make Indian Sign Language Interpretation compulsory in all Government meetings and programmes.
- The Sugamya Yatra (Accessible Walk), led by the State Commissioner in collaboration with members from NILD, RC Aizawl, students of Aizawl West College, and the access audit team, was a successful initiative that effectively raised awareness and highlighted the importance of creating a barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities.
- All heads of department were informed to take necessary action for implementation of provisions of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 Chapter IV Section 20 i.e 'non-discrimination in employment', Section 21 i.e ' Equal opportunity policy', Section 22 i.e 'maintenance of records' and Section 23 i.e ' Appointment of Grievance Redressal Officer'.
- The State Commissioner, accompanied by members of the Audit Team, carried out an accessibility audit across various public buildings in different districts of Mizoram—including the Deputy Commissioner's Office, District Hospitals, Higher Secondary Schools, Colleges, and Municipal Council Offices—with the aim of ensuring a barrier-free environment to make all public buildings accessible for persons with disabilities (PwDs). So far, 8 districts have been covered and the 3 remaining districts are yet to be audited in the near future.
- A circular was issued to all inclusive and special schools stating that Indian Sign Language (ISL) will be made compulsory. It will serve as the primary sign language taught in these institutions, as it is the only sign language officially recognized by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) in India.

- A letter was sent to the Secretary, UD&PA and Chief Engineer, PWD Road Division, requesting all sidewalks to be made accessible for wheelchair users within AMC area.
- The Assembly Secretary was sent a letter requesting the appointment of an Indian Sign Language interpreter to facilitate interpretation of Assembly sessions for the deaf community.
- A letter was sent to the Secretary, School Education Department stating that Govt. Primary School – II, Durtlang falls under the category of CwSN, it is therefore strongly recommended that the school be converted and designated as a Special School.
- A letter was sent to the Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department and Registrar, Zoram Medical College & Hospital, requesting that Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (PMR) course may be included in the syllabus considering its significance in the assessment and certification of Persons with Disabilities.
- A letter was sent to the President and Secretary of the Aizawl Bus Owner's Association (ABOA) requesting that bus conductors announce the names of stands and localities at every stop in city bus services to assist blind persons and other persons with disabilities. Additionally, it was suggested that persons with disabilities may be provided with fare concessions or free bus travel.
- A letter was sent to the Secretary of the Social Welfare, Women & Child Development Department, Principal of all Government Colleges, requesting them to engage only qualified Sign Language Interpreters. All local TV channels, LPS, Zonet Cable Services, and DDK were also requested to engage Sign Language Interpreters to interpret their news broadcasts.
- A letter was sent to the Secretary, DP&AR, requesting the issuance of an Office Memorandum (OM) regarding guidelines for providing certain facilities to government employees with disabilities, parents of children with disabilities, child care leave, etc.
- A letter was sent to all Deputy Commissioners and District Level Committees on Disability requesting the collection of data on Senior Citizens above 60 years and Persons with Disabilities in each district, in view of the free distribution of aids and appliances by ALIMCO.
- A letter was sent to the Secretary, Planning & Implementation Department, seeking clarification on the provision of 5% reservation under poverty alleviation schemes such as AAY, PMAY, Housing, etc.
- A letter was sent to the Chief Executive Officer, Mizoram Universal Health Care, requesting the provision of accessible health care services for Persons with Disabilities.

Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 by various State Government Departments

I. Rights and Entitlements (Section 3-15):

Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities was appointed as Nodal Officer for inclusive and accessible electoral processes vide No. H. 11021/1/2016-CEP dt: 11/06/2018. Director, Social Welfare Department was appointed as Limited Guardian vide No.B.13016/58/2017-SWD dt: 18/11/2018.

II. Education (Section 16-18):

- All District Education Officers under School Education Department were appointed as Nodal Officers for implementation of the provisions of the RPwD Act, 2016 for students with disabilities vide No.A.12034/1/2018- DSE(E) dt: 12/11/2018.
- Inclusive Education for students with Disabilities is implemented by the State to ensure that all facilities as mandated under Persons with Disabilities (PwD) Act are provided to all students with disabilities at the Elementary and Secondary Stages as per their needs.
- Although Special Part-time classes are not conducted, Resource Teachers (Special education Teachers) give Home-based Education to children with special needs who are not able to attend regular classes due to their profound disabilities. As recommended by MHRD there is one Resource Teacher in each block in all the Districts.
- Hearing Impaired children are allotted front row seats in the classroom at the left side of the teachers. Visually Impaired children are also allotted front row seats.
- Blind candidates appearing in HSLC examination conducted by Mizoram Board of School Education (MBSE) are allowed to offer either Commercial Studies /Home Science (Theory only) in lieu of Mathematics w.e.f 2009.

- Educational Facilities:-

(1) Books & Stationery (Including Braille Books for Blind and large print books for low vision)

(2) Braille stationery material (Including Embossed Charts, Globes etc.)
@ ₹450 x 10 months.

(3) Reader allowance @ ₹300 x 10 months.

(4) Escort allowance for 10 months including MR @ ₹ 400 x 10 months.

5) Transport Allowance for 10 months @ ₹ 400 x 10 months.

(6) Stipend for girls for 10 months @ ₹ 200 x 10 months.

(7) CwDs are given scholarships/Stipend as follows:-

a) Upto CI-IV : ₹800/- p.m per student.

b) CI-V to CI-VII : ₹1000/- p.m per student.

c) CI-VIII to CI-XII : ₹2500/- p.m per student.

- Examination:-

(1) Extra time of 1 hour (60 minutes) for each paper is given to CwSNs/CwDs during examinations.

(2) Blind, Locomotor & Spastic children are provided with Scribe and Writer.

(3) For Blind candidates appearing in the HSLC exam, practical examination shall not be conducted.

(4) In lieu of Mathematics, Blind candidates may offer either Commercial Studies or Home Science (Theory only).

III. Details of Special Schools catering to Children with Special Needs (CwSN):

SL. No	Name & Address of the NGOs	Name of contact person	Contact details
1	Gilead Special School, Bawngkawn, Aizawl, Mizoram – 796001	Laldinpuii	7005560895
2	Special Blind School), Zuangtui Road, Durtlang Venglai, Aizawl, Mizoram - 796025	Mr. R.K. Vanlalringa Principal	8258868365
3	Ephatha Special School, Kulikawn, Aizawl.	Samuel R. Lalhmangaiha	9774951704
4	Redeem Garden, Chaltlang Lily Veng, Aizawl	R. Lalhmachhuani Audiologist & Speech language pathologist	9862580177
5	Shining Star Special School, Republic Veng, Aizawl	Zonunmawii Principal	8732081079
6	Onyx Special School, Chanmari, Lunglei District, Mizoram - 796701	Mrs. Vanlalthlani Chhangte	9862411187
7	Salvation Army Home for the Blind, Kolasib Vengthar, Kolasib District	Capt. Joseph Lalrozama	6009436956
8	Gosen Special School, Project Road, Kolasib District, Mizoram -796018	Mr. P. Lianzuala Principal	9436372568
9	Shalom Spastic Society (Shalom Special School), New Serchhip, Serchhip District, Mizoram-796181	Lalawmpuii	9862014363

IV. Skill Development and Employment (Section 19-23):

1. There are 3 (Three) Training Centres for the Specially abled persons run by Social Welfare Department, viz:-
 - (1) Female Training Centre, Aizawl.
 - (2) Male Training Centre, Aizawl.
 - (3) Female and Male Training Centre, Lunglei

V. Social Security, Health, Rehabilitation and Recreation (Section 24-30):

- Reimbursement of hearing aid can be applied to Employees of the Government of Mizoram who entered Government service under the disabled quota and having authentic hearing impaired certification from the authorities appointed by the Govt. of Mizoram through the Social Welfare Department.
- Educated Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) who are registered in the Employment Exchange but not getting employment for more than 2 (two) years are given unemployment allowance by the State @ ₹3,000/- per year per person through the Social Welfare Department.
- Disability pension is given to severely disabled/totally bed ridden @ ₹350/- per month through the Social Welfare Department.
- Monitoring Committee for implementation of the roadmap for setting up rehabilitation Home for Mental Patients was set up vide Notification No.C.18015/94/2018-SWD dt: 1/07/2019 which was issued by the Social Welfare Department in compliance of Hon'ble Supreme Court order.

VI. Special Provisions for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (Section 31– 37):

- All Government institutions of higher education and other higher education institutions receiving aid from the Government reserves not less than 5% seats for Persons with benchmark disabilities.
- State Government notified 4% reservation under the Government of Mizoram for Persons with Disabilities in respect of all categories of posts in Group 'A','B','C' and 'D' under the Government which was recently revised on 18th April, 2017 Vide Government Notification No. A. 12027/2/2017 – P & AR (GSW) dt: 18/04/2017.
- There is 5% reservation in all poverty alleviation and various developmental Schemes with priority to women with benchmark disabilities vide No. D. 28013/1/2013-NLUP/PT-III/168 dt: 14/03/2018.
- Preferential allotment of house site in the New House Site Plan is given to disabled persons provided he/she is the head of the family having no house site for his/her own.

VII. Special provisions for persons with disabilities with high support needs (Section 38):

Director, Hospital & Medical Education was appointed as the Authority to whom a person with benchmark disability can apply for high support needs vide Notification No. J. 11018/14/2014-HFW.141 dt: 09/08/2019.

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VIII. Central and State Advisory Boards on disability and District Level Committee (Section 60-73):

The following Committees have been constituted as mandated under the RPwD Act, 2016:

- (1) State Advisory Board on Disability.
- (2) State Committee for Research on Disability.
- (3) District Level Committee on Disability.
- (4) Expert Committee.
- (5) State Level Coordination Committee.
- (6) Advisory Committee. The members of Advisory Committee are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Address
1	Pi. Lalrimawii Hmar	Joint Director, Administrative Training Institute	MINECO
2	Dr. Robert L. Khawlhing	State Nodal Officer, Mental Health, Directorate of Hospital & Medical Education	Directorate of Hospital & Medical Education
3	Lalbuatsiaha	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Govt. J. Thankima College, Bawngkawn	Govt. J. Thankima College, Bawngkawn
4	Nl. Lalfamkimi	Advocate, Zoram Law Consultancy	MINECO
5	Pu. K. Laltluangkima		Mission Veng

IX. Special Court (Section 84-85):

(1) Law & Judicial Department, Govt. of Mizoram after taking approval from the Chief Justice, Guwahati High Court had designated various Courts in Mizoram to try offences under the RPWD Act, 2016.

(2) As required under Section 85 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, Addl. Public Prosecutors are also appointed as Special Public Prosecutors for the purpose of conducting cases falling under the Act.

(3) Special courts for Divyangjan are as follows:-

Sl.No.	Name of Court	Territorial Jurisdiction
1	2nd Court of Addl. District & Session Judge, Aizawl	Whole of Aizawl, Serchhip and Mamit Administrative Districts
2	Addl. District & Session Judge, Lunglei	Whole of Lunglei Administrative District
3	Addl. District & Session Judge, Champhai	Whole of Champhai Administrative District
4	Fast Track Court, Saiha	Whole of Siaha and Lawngtlai Administrative District
5	Fast Track Court, Kolasib	Whole of Kolasib Administrative District

Recommendations

- Mandatory observance of accessibility norms – Standards of accessibility must be followed in the physical environment (such as public building – Hospitals, health centres, churches, schools, colleges), transportation (such as in public buses waiting shed, parking places, etc. should have barrier free environment for PwDs, etc.
- Private sectors such as banks, etc. should be made inclusive/accessible and have a barrier free environment.
- All Departments of the State should strictly follow the Reservation Roster System issued by the Department of DP & AR from time to time.
- The Aizawl Municipal Council (AMC) needs to ensure that all public buildings strictly follow the AMC Building Regulations, 2012 especially in respect of barrier free environment.
- To maintain a barrier free environment for Persons with Disabilities in all public buildings such as ramps, rails, accessible toilets, lifts, signage and tactiles.
- Not less than 5% reservation of seats for persons with benchmark disabilities should be maintained in respect of admission in higher education institutions receiving aid from the Govt. (as mentioned in RPwD Act, Chapter VI Section 32)
- Reservation for PwD in poverty elevation scheme (as mentioned in RPwD Act, Chapter VI Section 37 (b) should be strictly followed.
- There should be more provision for PwD with high support needs (as mentioned in RPwD Act, Chapter VII Section 38).