

## Andaman and Nicobar Islands

### Introduction

As of 2013, 1.85% of the population of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands consisted of persons with disabilities. The Union Territory has an estimated population of 7,057<sup>1</sup> persons with disabilities in a total population of 3,80,500<sup>2</sup> people. The Commissioner for Disabilities appointed at Port Blair is responsible for the welfare of persons with disabilities in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Overall the status of disability related schemes in Andamans and Nicobar Islands is very poor.

### 1. General Entitlements

- a. The 1981 Old Age Assistance Rules in Andaman & Nicobar Islands seeks to provide social security, through financial assistance, to those who are without any means of subsistence and destitute persons or persons with disabilities or those in old age.

Sl. No.	Name and Details of the Scheme / Notification	Description
1.	Andaman & Nicobar Administration Old Age Assistance Rules, 1981	The Rules provide social security by way of financial assistance to destitute, old and persons with disabilities who are without any means of subsistence. These Rules provide absolute benefit to the persons with disabilities of these islands and envisages providing scholarship to students with handicaps, financial assistance under self-employment ventures, unemployment allowance, financial assistance for better treatment at mainland hospital, purchase and repair of aid and appliances, permanent disability allowances, etc.

### 2. Women and Children with Disabilities

- a. The Government of Andaman & Nicobar has not enacted any specific schemes for women and children with disability.

### 3. Education

- a. The Government of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has only two schemes for children with disability. One scheme provides them with scholarships while the other aims at integrating children with disability into normal schools, wherever feasible.

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1. <http://socialjustice.nic.in/statewisedisabled.php>

2. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andaman\\_and\\_Nicobar\\_Islands](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Andaman_and_Nicobar_Islands)

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name and Details of the Scheme / Notification</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.	Scholarships	The Government awards scholarships to persons with disabilities from Class I to Class VIII.
2.	Integrated Education (IED) Scheme Issuing Authority: Department of Education	942 disabled children are identified and enrolled in the 27 IED Centres in different schools functioning across the islands. The department attempts to integrate children with disabilities into the normal school system wherever feasible. <sup>3</sup>

#### **4. Skill Development and Employment**

- a. The Government of Andaman and Nicobar Islands provides for reservations for Persons with Disability, in government jobs and also gives financial assistance to the physically handicapped and disabled persons in the State.

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name and Details of the Scheme / Notification</b>	<b>Description</b>
1.	Reservations in Government Jobs	In Grade 'C' and 'D' posts under the Govt., reservation is provided in direct recruitment for persons with disabilities in the following ratio as per the PWD Act: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visually handicapped 1%</li> <li>• Orthopedically handicapped 1%</li> <li>• Hearing handicapped 1%</li> </ul>
2.	Financial Assistance for Unemployed Persons with Disabilities Scheme	Provides financial assistance to physically handicapped and disabled citizens of the state, provided they are unemployed and below 35 years in age <sup>4</sup> .

#### **5. Social Security, Health, Rehabilitation and Recreation**

- a. The Government of Andaman and Nicobar Islands has several schemes for the Rehabilitation and Social Security of Persons with Disability. It has set up various Disability Centers and has schemes for the eradication of certain disabilities like leprosy. The Government has also come out with schemes for giving certain allowances and financial assistance to Persons with Disability, wherever they might be eligible for the same.

3. [http://www.and.nic.in/C\\_charter/education/dir-edn.htm](http://www.and.nic.in/C_charter/education/dir-edn.htm)

4. <http://india.gov.in/scheme/financial-assistance-physically-handicapped-unemployed-persons-andaman-and-nicobar>

Sl. No.	Name and Details of the Scheme / Notification	Description
1.	Rehabilitation Centres.	<p>One Rehabilitation Center under NPRPD (National Programme for Rehabilitation of Person with Disabilities) has been set up as per the direction of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India.</p> <p>One District Disabled Rehabilitation has also been established and functioning in collaboration with National Institute for the Orthopedically Handicapped.</p>
2.	Financial Assistance	Financial assistance for medical treatment in mainland is available.
3.	Schemes for eradication of certain disabilities	<p>The government has a National Leprosy Eradication Programme which consists of 10 Survey Education and Treatment (SET) Centers, 3 Urban Leprosy Centers and one 20 bedded Temporary Hospitalization Ward at Bambooflat and Multi Drug Therapy is also offered as part of this scheme.</p> <p>Under the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB), a State Programme Cell (Ophthalmic) has been created in the Directorate of Health Services with state programme officer designated as Deputy Director (Ophthalmology) to implement Blindness Control activities in these Islands.</p> <p>The National AIDS Control Programme is in operation in this territory since 1992-93. It comes under the purview of the Central Government.</p>
4.	Scheme for Financial Allowances to Permanently disabled persons in Andamans and Nicobar:	This scheme provides an allowance to permanently disabled persons of Rs.350/- per month for their lifetime.
5.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands Disability Allowances Scheme, 2010	<p>Permanent residents of Andamans and Nicobar Islands for 10 years would be eligible.</p> <p>Beneficiaries include Individual, Women, Children, Physically handicapped unemployed and persons with permanent disabilities.</p>

	<p>Any unemployed person of age 18 years or more, having 40% and above disability, with household income of less than Rs.2.5 lakhs per annum, is eligible for the financial assistance.</p> <p>Financial assistance of Rs. 750/- per month is provided under this Scheme.</p> <p>People will not be eligible for this scheme if they are getting assistance of scholarships or allowances from any other scheme by any other government body.</p>
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## 6. Accessibility

- a. The Assistance to Disabled Persons Scheme (ADIP) provides assistance to bona fide persons with disabilities in order to improve their mobility.

Sl. No.	Name and Details of the Scheme / Notification	Description
1.	Assistance to Disabled Persons Scheme (ADIP) by the Central Government	The Government of Andaman and Nicobar was allocated Rs. 9.83 lakhs under the Assistance to Disabled Persons Scheme (ADIP) by the Central Government. Assistance is provided to bona fide persons with disabilities in order to improve their mobility.

## 7. Certification

- a. The government provides disability certificates to persons with disabilities.

## 8. Schemes & Grants for Organisations & Individuals for Disabilities

- a. There are no schemes or grants provided to voluntary organisations for persons with disabilities in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

## 9. Disability Authorities

Andaman and Nicobar islands have two authorities responsible for the welfare of persons with disabilities:

- a. Commissioner for Disabilities.
- b. Social Welfare Department