



11th July 2025

To
The Honourable Chief Minister/Minister for welfare of Differently Abled
Secretariat
Chennai - 600009

Dear Sir,

Ref: Performance Budget 2025-2026

Sub : Request for Inclusion of Visually Impaired Women in the Motorized Sewing Machine Scheme

Nethrodaya is a Social Service Institution, approved by the Rehabilitation Council of India and recognized by the govt. of Tamil Nadu. As a recognition of our dedicated service in the field of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, we have been conferred with the Prestigious National Award by the Hon'ble President of India. Further, Nethrodaya has also been awarded as "The Best Institution "by the Government of Tamil Nadu for offering quality services to Differently Abled students completely free of cost.

We wish to bring to your attention the exclusion of Visually Impaired and Low Vision women from the Motorized Sewing Machine Scheme, despite their successful completion of tailoring training at recognized institutions such as the one in Mannarpuram, Trichy. It is also important to highlight the example of Apeksha, an international garment unit that operates entirely with Visually Impaired employees, clearly demonstrating their capability and efficiency in this field.

As per the Performance Budget for 2025–2026, a total of Rs. 2.61 crores has been allocated to benefit 4,000 Orthopedically Differently Abled and Hearing-Impaired individuals under this scheme. While this initiative is commendable, it currently does not provide the same opportunity to Visually Impaired women, who are equally skilled and capable of using motorized sewing machines to earn a livelihood.

We strongly urge the department to extend eligibility for this scheme to include Visually Impaired and Low Vision women. Their inclusion would promote self-reliance and ensure equitable support across all sections of the differently abled community. We respectfully request that necessary amendments be made without further delay.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

For **Nethrodaya**

C. Govindakrishnan
Founder
National Awardee
Best Social Worker Awardee -TN

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DONATIONS ARE EXEMPTED FROM INCOME TAX UNDER SECTION 80G OF THE I.T.ACT, 1961

(9) **MOTORIZED SEWING MACHINES:**

22

Aim of the Scheme: In order to empower and to increase the Self-Employment avenues to the differently abled persons, the Government provide Motorized Sewing Machines to the locomotor differently abled persons, Hearing Impaired persons and mother of 75% affected Intellectual disabled persons.

Year of Commencement: 2009-2010

YEAR	PHYSICAL		FINANCIAL	
	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
	(No. of beneficiaries)		(Rupees in lakh)	
2021-2022	2421	2141	146.50	146.44
2022-2023	2421	3764	257.86	257.86
2023-2024	3764	4227	162.39	287.21
2024-2025	4500	2220	162.39	141.37
2025-2026	4000		261.13	