

Physically Challenged get to vote in Telangana Polls.

The disabled and the physically challenged will now be able to exercise their right to vote with ease in Telangana thanks to special efforts taken by the Election Commission.

A delegation of the Hyderabad-based All India Disabled Rights Forum met the Chief Electoral Officer, Dr Rajat Kumar, on Monday, and submitted their representation to ensure facilities and amenities that would enable the differently abled to participate in the state polls.

The requests included the provision for wheelchairs, toilets for disabled women, escorts to be allowed in booths and a special queue. 'I have spoken to the principal secretary of transport to provide buses on polling days to enable increased access to the differently challenged to polling booths,' explained Rajat Kumar.

Addressing the concerns of the delegation, the Chief Electoral Officer explained that communicators in sign-language were being present at all districts to direct and aid the differently challenged. 'Workshops at the state and district level will be held to sensitise officials with regard to physically challenged voters.'

Rajat Kumar added that a nodal officer would be appointed in each district to ensure that the above-mentioned measures are implemented.