

Technology in States and provides assistance to State Councils for various activities including creating awareness about Science and Technology. However, establishment of Science and Technology centres fall under the purview of National Council of Science Museums, Ministry of Culture. A proposal for establishment of Science Centre in the state of Jammu and Kashmir at Srinagar has been received from the Department of Science and Technology, Government of Jammu and Kashmir by the National Council of Science Museums, Ministry of Culture which is being processed.

#### **Empowerment of persons with disability**

830. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:

SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Steps taken for empowerment of Persons with Disabilities as per para 6.172 to 6.186 of Chapter 6 "Social Justice" of Volume 1 of the Eleventh Five Year documents and outcome thereof;
- (b) Steps taken in pursuance of U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability;
- (c) Grants Released under the scheme of "Integrated programme for Older Person" and Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme during past three years, thereby what was per capita for each older and each disabled person; and
- (d) Number of disabled persons given employment during last three years, thereby how far their job reservation quota was justified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Details of the measures that have been taken with regard to the major points mentioned in the paras 6.172 to 6.186 of Chapter 6 "Social Justice" of Volume 1 of the Eleventh Five Year Plan document is given in Statement (see below).

(b) All the State Governments/ UT Administrations and concerned Central Ministries have been asked to take suitable steps for giving effect to the obligations under U.N. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). Amendments to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, inter alia, to harmonize it with the provisions of the UNCRPD are under consideration of the Government.

(c) An amount of Rs.46.39 crore to 121269 beneficiaries and Rs.189.61 crore to 586999 beneficiaries have been released under the scheme of 'Integrated Programme for Older Person' and 'Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme' respectively during past three years. Per capita benefit for each older and each disabled person vary from project to project.

(d) As per information received from 65 Ministries/Departments 332 persons with disabilities were appointed by direct recruitment during the year 2006. As per information received from 60 Ministries/Departments 292 persons with disabilities were appointed by direct recruitment during year

2007. In the year 2008, as per information received from 36 Ministries/Departments 266 persons with disabilities were appointed. Department of Personnel & Training vide O.M. No. 36038/2/2008-Estt. (Res) dated 27th November, 2009 have instructed to launch a Special Recruitment Drive to fill up the backlog reserved vacancies of Persons with Disabilities existing as on 15.11.2009 by 15.07.2010.

### ***Statement***

#### *Details of measures taken by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment on the basis of Eleventh Five Year Plan*

1. The Ministry is in the process of amending Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and full Participation) Act, 1995 in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (UNCRPD). First Draft of the proposed amendments was placed before Central Co-ordination Committee on 21.07.2009 for discussion. Based on the comments received in this meeting, a revised draft of the amendments has been circulated to all the State Governments/UT Administration on 04.09.2009 and concerned Central Ministries/Departments on 23.09.2009 seeking their comments/views. The draft has also been posted on the website of the Ministry inviting comments from stakeholders and general public. The draft amendments were also discussed in the meeting of the Central Executive Committee (CEC), a statutory committee under Section 9 of the PwD Act on 27.01.2010.
2. The Delhi Division of Ministry of Urban Development had notified the amended Building Bye-Laws, 1983 vide No. K-12016/5/79/DDIA/VA1B Vol. ix (pt), dated 28th August, 2002, to ensure that the public buildings, which were erected in Delhi provided barrier free environment to Persons with Disabilities. These Building Bye-laws for barrier-free build environment in public buildings has been circulated to all the States and Union Territories for incorporation on the municipal building Bye-laws. So far, 22 States have informed that they have modified their building bye-laws. Once, these buildings have barrier free features, they will be easily accessible to disabled and user friendly to the disadvantaged persons including handicapped, old age and senior citizens. Setting up of a monitoring mechanism is under consideration.

The Department of public enterprises has decided that all building of the Central Public Sector Enterprises be made barrier free within following time limit.

- (i) Navratna CPSEs - 2009-10
- (ii) Miniratna CPSEs - 2010-11
- (iii) All other CPSEs - 2011-12

The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched its accessible website - [www.socialjustice.nic.in](http://www.socialjustice.nic.in) on 05.01.2010, which is disabled friendly.

3. 199 DDRCs have been sanctioned so far. Of these 173 DDRCs are made operational. Of the remaining 26 centres, funds have been released to 5 DDRCs in 2009-10 to operationalize them. The Scheme of the DDRCs is under revision. After revision, more DDRCs will be sanctioned in unserved Districts.

4. A Committee has been constituted to review the ADIP Scheme.
5. The National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) provide concessional credit to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) for setting up income generating activities for self-employment. 11580 Persons with Disabilities have been provided loans at concessional rates by the Corporation during the first two years of the Eleventh Five year Plan.
6. The Persons with Disabilities Rules, 1996 have been amended vide notification no. 16-02/2007-DD.III dated 30.12.2009 and the amended Rules inter-alia prescribe a simplified and decentralized procedure for issuance of Disability Certificate.
7. Under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), buildings of about 7.5 lakhs elementary schools have been made barrier free. Besides, additional grant @ Rs. 1200/- per child with disability per year is provided under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, meet the special needs of such children.  
  
A new Scheme of Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS) is being implemented from April 2009. It covers disabled children in Classes IX-XII and aims to enable all students with disabilities, to pursue secondary schooling in an inclusive environment.
8. DOPT has issued OM, dated 27th November, 2009 directing ministries to conduct special recruitment drive to fill up backlog reserve vacancies for persons with disabilities.
9. A scheme of INCENTIVES TO EMPLOYERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT TO THE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES has been launched, w.e.f. 01.04.2008. Under this Scheme, the Government of India provides the employer's contribution for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for 3 years, for disabled persons employees employed in the private sector on or after 01.04.2008, with a monthly salary upto Rs.25,000.

#### **Rights of Persons with Disabilities**

831. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India had signed the United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD);
- (b) whether Government is contemplating amendments in various laws in compliance with UNCRPD; and
- (c) if so, the details of amendments proposed thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Ministry is contemplating amendments to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 in line with UNCRPD and with a view to harmonize it with the provisions of the other legislations on the subject. The proposed amendments inter-alia, broadly cover addition of new disabilities, changes in definitions, provision for universal design, reasonable accommodation, inclusive education, healthcare, etc. The amendments also include measures for affirmative action and non-discrimination.