important is the accountability of the public schools, the private schools; whether they have special sections dedicated to the special children, and along with the education, what is equally important, Sir is the residential facilities and also the vocational education, so that those, who can sustain themselves in a caring environment, can also contribute, through their creative skills, to the society and also a policy to take care of them in their old age. Because if their families do not take care of them, and if the society and the State also reject them, it would be very cruel.

MESSAGE FROM THE LOK SABHA

The Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I beg to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:

> "In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (No. 4) Bill, 2004, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 1st December, 2004.

The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

Points arising out of the answer to Starred Question No. 67 given in Rajya Sabha on the 6th December, 2004 regarding Disabled Students—Contd.

SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY (West Bengal): Sir, a point of issue, which Shri Anand Sharma made, was about MPLAD Scheme. I do not know; I have been doing it and I do not find anything wrong with it. I mean, there is no objection.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Since you have asked this question, I would like to say that I got a request from the Bishop Cotton School, Shimla.

They had organised a three-day workshop for the disabled children, for the challenged children. They wanted some support, whether we could buy stationery for them, whether we could pay for the accommodation or get some furniture. I wrote to the Department, but, I was told by the Department that there is no provision. You can contribute if you set up a school or support an institution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can write to the MPLAD Committee.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I have already written.

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश) **:** धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय, मैं पहले भी इस बारे में यहां बोल चुकी हूं। मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि यह विषय जो है यह एजुकेश्सन मिनिस्ट्री या ह्यूमन रिसॉर्स डेवलमेंट मिनिस्ट्री की नहीं है, यहां मिनिस्टर साहब है, वे गुरूजन हैं और बहुत एक्सपीरिएंस्ड है और मैं यह सोचता हूं कि बहुत अच्छा है कि आप यहां बैठे हैं और आपने एग्री किया तथा इसके ऊपर आप लोगों की राय सुनना चाहते हैं। it is absolutely shocking for me to see the number in this House when this special discussion is going on. If people like us, who are representing so many other people, do not have the sensitivity, how do yoy expect anybody else to feel the same way? I suggest the education must start here with Parliamentarians.

श्री रूद्रनायाण पणि (उड़ीसा) **:** सर, जो इस विषय पर बोलते हैं वे बोलने के बाद भी यहां से चले जाते हैं।

श्रीमती जया बच्चन : हर विषय पर ऐसे ही होता है , सिर्फ यही विषय नहीं है। it is a very unfortunate thing for Members like us, who are absolutely new and who are just learning the process of this Parliament. Sir, I have been working with these children for the last 25 years. Except the parents, nobody is aware of the problems. I therefore, suggest that in our primary schools, a certain moral education should be made compulsory, where all other children learn about the challened children. They have no sensitivity. They do not understand them. When they see a challenged child, they think यह पागल हैं, यह बहुत गलत बात है। They must be taught sensitivity. Sir, we are not teaching sensitivity to our children in schools. Why should only NGOs be doing things like this? How is it that we never every discuss them, whether we are discussing finance, whether we are discussing education, whether we are discussing welfare, we never ever think of these children.

Sir, I must tell you that mothers who have challenged children suffer the most because they are condemned because of lack of education. And it is very sad when the poor families who not only have one challenged child, but they have these kind of children. There is a method to find out if your child is going to be a challenged child, physically more, than mentally, in the womb of *mata.*

I think it is very, very cruel to se these children. I have been working with them; I have taken children all around the world. They are very, very creatively inclined, and, they should be given special attention. Actually, it is very difficult subject for me because I am very personally involved.

Sir, our teachers in schools do not know about a simple thing like dyslexia. It is a very, very minor deformity which can be rectified within a year of child's birth; if you get to know, it can be rectified. In India, nobody knows, the schools don't know except few schools who realised that the children are having problem in reading, and, there is no such provision. It is very, very minor thing, and, dyslexic children are considered to be brilliant children. Sir, it is very unfortunate that there is no awareness. I would like to request the Minister—I don't know I just see very few people here—and, I am sure, Sir, if you bring in some kind of Bill, or, if you could speak to the Cabinet, may be something can be done, and, I am sure, all the people who are present here are really the people who are concerned, rest are not *...(Interruptions)...*

AN HON. MEMBER: May be they are not aware *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: I am sorry, how can you say that they were not informed. I think this is lack of sensitivity. In fact, this kind of discussion should be taken up early in the morning when everyone is very aware, and, receptive. At this time, everyone is tired, and, not so receptive. I know there are parents who can afford to look after mentally and physically challenged children. But they do not know how. There is no organisation to help them. Physically challenged children still have some help, the brothers help, the cousins help, but what about the mentally challenged children. There is no organisation where they can be left after the parents have gone. That is the biggest worry of a parent who has mentally challenged child. I am a very new Member, and, I am not aware of the process. Sir, I request you, since you are here, आप गुरूजन हैं, आप इस चीज को आगे बढ़ाइये ।

And, I am sure that we will not support you. I agree with what Chandrakalaji, with Rajeevji, and with Anwarji also, that a certain amount of fund from the MPLAD funds should be made compulsory for these kind of activities. It is my request through you, Sir. In the end, I thank you for having given my the opportunity to speak on this very important subject.

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, Jayaji spoke very well. Mr. Sharma also spoke very well. But every time, we are accusing the other Members who are not present here. When it comes in the print media, people think that this is the seriousness with which Members of Parliament are *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The whole country will be seeing.

SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Sir, all the Bills, all the Resolutions, everything is important. But sometimes, there are some other important works to be *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, even the media is not present here *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री एस. एस. अहलुवालिया (झारखंड) : उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सिद्दिकी जी का शुक्रगुजार हूं कि उन्होंने हाफ एन ऑवर डिसकशन की मांग की । वह मांग स्वीकार हुई और हम उस पर बहस कर रहे हैं । महोदय, मैं 1986 से इस सदन में हूं । मैंने कई बार प्राइवेट मैंबर बिल के रूप में फिजिकली चैलेण्ड परसंस के लिए, उनके रीहैब्लीटेशन के लिए, उनकी एजूकेशन, उनकी ट्रेनिंग के लिए कई बार कई विधेयक पेश किए । पर यह मेरा दुर्भाग्य है कि यह परम्परा है कि अगर बैलेट में आए तो चर्चा होती है ओर बैलेट में नहीं आए तो चर्चा नहीं होती है और यह चर्चा नहीं हो सकी । आज मुझे आपने समझा कुछ प्रश्न उठाने का एक मौका मिला है । महोदय, मैं समझता हूं कि कुदरत की यह सबसे परफेक्ट देन हैं क्योंकि मैं भगवान को मानता हूं और मैं समझता हूं कि भगवान कोई imperfect चीज नहीं बना सकते हैं । जो बनाते हैं, वह परफैक्ट बनाते हैं इसलिए कुदरत की वह सबसे परफैक्ट देन है, वह हमें शिरोधार्य होनी चाहिए , उसको सिर-माथे लगाकर हमें कबूल करना चाहिए। परन्तु हमारे पूर्व पुरूषों ने या पूर्व विधाताओं ने, पता नहीं क्या एक ऐसा नियत या ऐसी परम्परा डाल दी और ऐसी विभांतियां समाज में डाल दी कि फिजिकली चैलेञ्ज्ड परसन को देखकर भी लोग खुश नहीं हुआ करते थे । परन्तु जैसे-जैसे दिन बदले, सुधार आया, विकास आया तो इनके बारे में सोच शुरू हुई है किन्तु अभी भी हम उस पर खरे नहीं उतरे हैं। जैसे अभी जया जी बोल रही थी और पूर्व वक्ताओं ने भी बोला, हमो पास टीचर्स नहीं है जो इनकी तकलीफों को समझ सकें । हमारे पास इनका इनफास्ट्रक्चर नहीं है कि फिजिकली चैलेंज्ड परसन अगर इस बिल्डिंग में आता

है अगर वह case out होना चाहता है, नेचुरल कॉल के लिए तो वह किस टायलेट में आए, वह टॉयलेट उपलब्ध नहीं है। अगर वह ट्रेन में चढ़ना चाहता है तो वैसा प्लेटफॉर्म उपलब्ध नहीं है एक छात्र को हम पढ़ाने के लिए स्कूल भेजते हैं , अब , एक शहर में तो इतने फिजिकली चैलेन्ज्ड और मैटली चैलेंज्ड स्टूडेट्स नही होंगे कि वहां एक स्कूल चले, नेचुरली दूसरे शहरो से या दूसरे गावों से लोग आंएगें और वहां पढ़ेंगे । तो उनके मां-बाप जो अपने गांव और शहर को छोड़कर दूसरे शहर में एक स्कूल में पढ़ाने आएंगे, उनके रहन-सहन के लिए, उनके ठहरने के लिए या उनकी सांत्वना के लिए कोई ऐसी उपाय नहीं है । कई सरकारों ने ऐसे-ऐसे इनकम टैक्स के बैनीफिट दिये कि आपके घर में अगर एक फिजिकली चैलेंज्ड या मैंटली चैलेज्ड परसन है तो आपको इनकम टैक्स में इतना रिबेट मिल जाएगा। रिबेट लेकर हम क्या करेंगे? एक फिजिकली चैलेज्ड परसन की जो मुसीबतें है, वे पैसे से दूर नहीं की जा सकती है। उसके लिए मानसिकता की जरूरत है और यह मानिसकता सदभावना और संवेदना से जुडी हो, तब हम दूर कर सकते हैं । महोदय, बहुत दिनों से यह मांग थी । हम पढ़ने की बात कर रहे हैं , सबने कहा कि उनको शिक्षा दी जाए, मंत्री महोदय यहां बैठे हैं, शाहिद सिद्दिकी जी, आपके लिए मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि जवाहर लाल नेहरू युनिवर्सिटी में बिहार का एक लड़का है, जिसने पीएचडी की है लेकिन उसको नौकरी नहीं मिली, वाइस चांसलर को चिट्ठी लिख –लिखकर थक गया, टेलीफोन कर-करके थक गया। अगर पढ़कर उनको नौकरी न मिले-आज मुझे बड़ा अच्छा लगा जब कल रात को मैंने इंटरनेट पर पढ़ा कि सरकार ने निर्णय लिया है, बहुत लम्बी डिमांड थी, यह बहुत दिनों की मांग थी कि आईएएस ऑसिसर जब तक विकलांग या फिजीकली चैजेंल्ड नही बनेगा, तब तक उसके दर्द को नहीं समझेगा, कलेक्टर नहीं बनेगा, एसडीओ नहीं बनेगा । हमारे सुरेश पचौरी जी ने वह फैसला ले लिया है, वे इसके लिए बधाई के पात्र हैं, कि दो सींटे उनके लिए रिजर्व होंगी परन्तु ध्यान दें, कही इन सीटों का भी वही हाल न हो जाए, जैसे शैडयूल्ड ट्राइब्स नहीं मिलते और फिर वे जनरल सीट कि साथ मिला दिये जाते हैं । ऐसा न हो, ऐसा अन्याय न हो । इनके साथ पूरा जस्टिस करने के लिए आपको चाहिए कि उनको वैसी शिक्षा उपलब्ध हो, वैसे कप्यूटर उपलब्ध हो, ब्रेल एजुकेशन के माध्यम से जो दृष्टि से विहीन है, - आप कभी जाकर दिल्ली के जो ब्लांइड स्कूल्स हैं, वहां जाकर देखिए, उनकी हालत देखिए। लोग अपने ग्रहों के निवारण के लिए वहां लडड़ू खिलाने तो जरूर पहुच जाएंगे, क्योंकि वे समझते हैं कि उससे ग्रहों का निवारण हो जाएगा, पर वहां अगर कुछ देना होगा, तो नहीं देंगे । उसके infrastructure के लिए अगर कुछ देना होगा, तो नहीं देंगे और वह चीज उपलब्ध नहीं हो पाएगी। अतः महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मेरा मंत्री जी से सिर्फ इतना ही कहना है कि शिक्षा के लिए बेसिक infrastructure केवल बिल्डिंग ही नहीं है। उसका सबसे बेसिक infrastructure ट्रेनर्स और टीचर्स हैं , जिनके मन में यह भावना हो कि एक physically and mentally challenged person को कैसे डील करना है । जो बोल नहीं सकता है, उसको speech therapist जब तक नहीं जानेगा, वह बोलना नहीं सिखा सकता है । उसको गलत-गलत दवांए खिलाकर और नंबो के

पास पहुंचाकर , उसकी हालत और खराब कर दी जाती है। उसके लिए हॉस्पिटल्स होने चाहिए, उसके लिए नर्सिग होम्स होने चाहिए, उसके लिए स्कूल्स होने चाहिए और सबसे ज्यादा उसको रोजी का अधिकार मिलना चाहिए । वह रोजी कहां कमा सकता है उसका रास्ता निकलना चाहिए । इसको सिर्फ वेलफेयर मे या समाज-सुधार में डालकर नहीं, because they are the perfect children of God, they are the gift of the God and we should treat them like that, मै समझता हूं कि अगर इस भावना को लेकर हम चलेंगे तो हम जरूर उनका भला कर सकेंगे , धन्यवाद ।

श्री उपसभापति : जयराम रमेश जी, आपने तो विदड्रा कर लिया है । Now, I request the hon. Minister to reply. I am happy that this half-an-hour discussion was a very good discussion. I wish there would have been more Members to listen to this excellent debate on mentally challenged children.

SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): As Chairman of the MPLAD Funds Committee, most of the requests are made to you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let the requests come. But here we had a very good discussion. *(Interruption)*

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Sir, if you allow from the MPLAD Funds, at least, one rehabilitation centre in one district can be financed. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, it is actually allowed. I have got a clarification from Mr. Oscar Fernandes. Let me explain. In three tribal districts of Andhra Pradesh, I am doing precisely this. Twenty-five per cent of my MPLAD Funds for the next six years are devoted for setting up rehabilitation centres for physically and mentally challenged tribal children. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Do you monitor it?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: No. It as actually being inaugurated today, there is a whip and I have to be present here today. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: There should be a model so that rehabilitation centres can be constructed throughout the country uniformly in every district. *(Interruptions)*

† Transliterationof Urdu Script.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: It took me two-and-a-half months to pursue it with the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. But now they are fully helpful. *{Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think, we will have a discussion this in a separate meeting with Members.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): It is seldom, Sir, that the focus in this august House rests on these blossoms in the dust. Actually, I would not have been here today if I had gone strictly by the Business Rules of the Government, because this act, under the Business Rules, falls under the charge of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. It is just accidentally that one Mr. Javed, who is a young person, a disabled person, an NGO, who has practically dedicated himself to this task, and I happen to know him and his family for a long time, his persistent request to me in this regard compelled me to talk to my colleague, Meiraji, and I asked my department also to get into the process of trying to address this problem. I can give figures. I do not know how far they are correct. But I have been told that the *Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan* has identified 15.93 lakh children with disabilities, of whom, 10.77 lakhs have already been enrolled in schools at the beginning of the academic session of 2004. As I said, I cannot vouchsafe for these statistics. But I am absolutely certain that the Indian society and the Indian State is certainly competent, and certainly powerful enough to address the problems that deal with these children. At this moment, there is a very disjointed effort, which I will not call an effort at all, even though this Act, which legally recognises this disability, was passed many years ago. I would therefore, Sir, seek your permission to take up this matter with the hon. Prime Minister, and, I am sure that he, and his Government, will comeout with a comprehensive plan of action, with the required financial a backing in a State, where we talk of spending thousands of crores of rupees for this project and that project, I do not think it will be difficult to find that money also. Sir, since the Session is coming to an end, of course, in the first week of the next Session, with the help of many friends and colleagues, whom I can identify here and outside, we will try to bring this plan before this august House, an with the help of all the Members who will impart that sanction and that support which, I am sure, will take forward in this effort. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOUDHARY: May I make a request, Sir, to the hon. Minister? May I request him, may I urge him, through you, Sir, to kindly project, if possible, to the Government, the case of people who are suffering from Alzheimer's disease?

†**श्री शाहिद सिद्दिकी :** उपसभापति जी, मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूं । मै मंत्री जी का बहुत शुक्रगुजार हूं, कि उन्होंने इतना सीरियसली इस मसले को लिया है । यह हम सब पर एक बहुत बड़ा अहसान है, इस मुल्क पर अहसान है, लेकिन मैं एक चीज कहना चाहूंगा कि वे इन फिगर्स को देख लें, क्योंकि मेरे पास अलग-अलग सोर्सेज से जो फिगर्स हैं, जो फिजिकली और मेंटली चेंलेन्ज्ड बच्चे हैं, वह 400 मिलियन की फिगर हैं ....(**व्यवधान**)...

شری شاہد صدیقی : سر یہ بہت ہی اہم موضوع ہے جو ڈس ایبل بچے ہیں، چیلنجڈ بچے ہیں ان کے لئے شکشا کا سوال ہے اور میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ ہمیں اس کا مہتو سمجھنا پڑے گا کیونکہ آج ہندوستان میں 4 کروڑ بچے ہیں جو چار سال سے 16 سال کی عمر کے ہیں وہ مینٹلی اور فزیکلی چیلنجڈ ہیں۔ دنیا میں 9 کروڑ بچے ایسے ہیں جو چیلنجڈ ہیں ان 9 کروڑ میں سے صرف چار کروڑ ہندوستان میں ہیں، جو چار سال سے 16 سال کے بیچ میں ہیں .....مداخلت......

श्री उपसभापति : उन्होंने कह दिया है।

†**श्री शाहिद सिद्दिकी :** इतना ज्यादा फर्क नजर आ रह है , सोलह लाख ....(**व्यवधान**)...

شری شاہد صدیقی : اتنا زیادہ فرق نظر آرہا ہے، سولہ لاکھ .....مداخلت......

श्री उपसभापति : उन्होंने फिगर्स के बारे में कह दिया है।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा : मंत्री जी ने खुद माना है ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is now adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

The House then adjourned at two minutes past seven of the clock, till * eleven for the clock on Wednesday, the 22nd December, 2004.

† Transliteration of Urdu Script.