

This includes:

- (i) upward revision of income ceiling from Rs. 1 lakh p.a. to Rs. 2 lakh p.a.
- (ii) re-grouping of courses; and
- (iii) upward revision of rates of maintenance and other allowances.

The increase in Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers and increase in salary of Government employees, consequent upon 6th Pay Commission recommendations has been *inter-alia* taken into consideration, while revising the Scheme.

The revision of the Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for OBC students is under consideration of the Government.

Amendments to Persons with Disability Act

886. SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to amend the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995;
- (b) if so, the status thereof;
- (c) whether Government plans to bring in a new law in place of the above and if so, by when the new bill is likely to be presented in Parliament; and
- (d) the details of the proposals proposed in the Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) to (d) Ministry has constituted a Committee comprising of experts in disability Sector, representatives of the stakeholders including State Governments, Central Ministries/Civil Society organizations etc. to study the suggestions and comments/views on the proposed amendments received from several Ministries, State Governments and UT Administrations, Non-Government Organizations, etc. and to draft a new legislation for persons with disabilities. The Committee is still deliberating on various issues relating to new legislation for the Persons with Disabilities. The Committee has been asked to submit the draft legislation by 30th June, 2011.

Amount allocated in budget for welfare of SC/ST

887. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount allocated in the budget of 2009-10 for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the country as a whole;