

(c) and (d) The Ministry has invited considered views of concerned Ministries, State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and concerned agencies regarding amendments in the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Menace of begging on the road

4606. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH:

SHRI SALIM ANSARI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that on the major thorough fares of National Capital of Delhi, poor children and women are seen begging at traffic junctions;

(b) whether these children and women are reported to be orphaned or abandoned children;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the steps Government has taken or proposes to take to stop completely the menace of begging on the road of NCT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) The Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that on major thoroughfare of NCT of Delhi, poor children and women are seen begging at traffic junctions.

(b) and (c) There is no authentic information available in this regard.

(d) The Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 has been extended to the NCT of Delhi in the year 1960. The following steps are being taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi under the Act:

- (i) Anti-begging teams are operational to apprehend beggars from different places of Delhi. Those apprehended beggars are produced before designated Beggars Courts;
- (ii) Those remanded to Beggar Homes are provided with food, medical facility, recreational activities, counselling and psycho social support, clothing, bedding, etc. during the period of their detention; and
- (iii) Vocational training is imparted to the able bodied beggars and they are paid stipend for the vocational training.