

with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) (PWD) Act, 1995 provides for reservation of not less than 3% of vacancies in Government establishments for persons with disabilities of which 1% each shall be reserved for persons suffering from (i) blindness or low vision; (ii) hearing impairment and (iii) loco motor disability or cerebral palsy in the posts identified for each disability. However only persons suffering from not less than forty percent of any disability as certified by a medical authority is entitled for such reservation.

(b) and (c) All the Central Ministries and Departments, especially those concerned with infrastructure, social sector and poverty alleviation, have been requested by this Ministry for earmarking three per cent of allocation of their Twelfth Five Year Plan for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs). They have also been requested to develop appropriate monitoring and other mechanisms to ensure proper utilization of the fund for this purpose.

As regards employment of PWDs as against the posts reserved for them in terms of the Section 33 of PWD Act, 1995, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) has issued instructions to all the Ministries/Departments. All the Ministries/Departments are required to follow these instructions.

#### **Rehabilitation of autistic children**

4618. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many children are affected by Autism in our country; and

(b) what are the rehabilitation steps provided by Government for these children?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI PORIKA BALRAM NAIK): (a) There has been no enumeration of Autism affected persons in India either in Census, 2001 or by National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) survey, 2002.

(b) The National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, a statutory body under the Department of Disability Affairs is implementing various schemes for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities. A statement indicating details of the schemes is given in Statement.

**Statement***Details of schemes for persons with disabilities***1. Aspiration - Early Intervention Programme (Day Care Centre)**

The Scheme Aspiration-for school readiness by early intervention has been conceived for children upto 6 years of age with 'Developmental Disability' and aims at working with these young children and their parents in a batch of 20 to make them ready for schooling. At present, there are 79 centres across the country.

**2. Gyan Prabha (Scholarship Scheme)**

Gyan Prabha scheme provides financial assistance for pursuing vocational training/professional courses leading to skill development and employment for Persons with Disabilities. The scheme has been amended in 2010 as under:

- (i) Monthly family income limit of Rs. 15,000 has been waived off. The condition of minimum 50% marks for renewal of the scholarship for next year has been waived off. The renewal now is based on regular attendance in the class to be certified by the head of the educational/training institute.
- (ii) The scholarship amount has been increased from Rs.700 p.m. to Rs. 1000 p.m.

**3. Samarth (Residential Care Scheme)**

It provides safety net to families in crisis by providing short term and long term stay facilities for adults and destitute children. There are 119 such Centers in the country with a capacity of 30 beneficiaries each (24 - residential and 6 day care). Vocational training is also provided for under the scheme.

**4. Niramaya (Health Insurance Scheme)**

The scheme provides health insurance coverage of Rs. 1.0 lakh to persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.. The insurance is available at a nominal premium of Rs.250/- p.a. for family income upto Rs.15,000/- and at a premium of Rs.500/- p.a. for family income higher than Rs.15,000/-. So far, 1,25,247 beneficiaries have been enrolled under the

Scheme across the country. Claim settlement of more than 6.21 crore for 20,052 cases have been made upto 31.03.2013.

**5. Sahyogi – Care Givers Training and Deployment Scheme**

Under the scheme, Care Givers Cell (CGCs) have been set up in selected NGO Centers across the country to provide Care Givers Training Program by trained professionals. Training of these professionals is being conducted in Delhi in batches. The registration of Care Givers and enrolment of Care Seekers are being done in the CGCs. So far, 40 CGCs have been sanctioned out of which 36 CGCs have been set up in the country.

**6. Uddyam Prabha (Incentive) Scheme**

Under the Uddyam Prabha scheme, persons with disabilities covered under the National Trust Act. are given interest subsidy up to 5% in case of BPL and 3% in case of others if they avail loan from banks or financial institutions for carrying out income generating ventures. Loan can be availed individually or in a group of any size but the incentive is limited to 5 years on loan up to Rs. 1 lakh per person.

**7. Gharaunda (Group Home and Rehabilitation Activities under National Trust Act for Disabled Adults)**

It is a scheme to provide lifelong shelter and care under assisted living programme. The scheme is free for BPL beneficiaries and on payment basis for others.

**Reservation as per caste population**

†4619. DR. BHUSHAN LAL JANGDE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of reservation has been fixed on the basis of the percentage of various castes in States of country;

(b) the details of percentage of reservation fixed on the basis of population of various castes in Madhya Pradesh in 2001; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the people belonging to the Scheduled Castes of Chhattisgarh are not getting the benefit of reservation in other States of the country?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.