

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) to replace the existing Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) (PwD) Act, 1995. The Committee submitted its report suggesting a draft legislation titled "The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2011" on 30.06.2011. Subsequently, the Ministry had initiated consultations with concerned Central Ministries and Departments on the draft Bill. Based on the comments received, a fresh draft Rights to the Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2012 has been prepared and circulated to all States/UTs seeking their comments/views.

Disabled persons

2593. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of disabled persons in the country;
- (b) the details of steps Government has taken to empower the people with disabilities with regard to employment generation; and
- (c) how many such persons have been given employment after said steps have been taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI D. NAPOLEON): (a) The total number of persons with disability (PwDs) in the country which includes physically and mentally challenged persons is 2.19 crore as per Census, 2001.

(b) Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) (PwD) Act, 1995 provides for reservation 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. Accordingly, reservations are made in various Government Establishments including Public Sector Undertakings (PSU).

Further, with a view to encourage employment of Persons with Disabilities in private sector, the Government provides the employer's contribution for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for 3 years, for employees with disabilities including visually impaired persons employed in the private sector on or after 01.04.2008, with a monthly salary upto Rs. 25,000 under its Scheme of Incentives to the Private Sector for Employment of Physically Challenged Persons.

National Handicapped and Finance Development Corporation (NHFDC), a PSU under this Ministry, is providing loans at concessional rates for encouraging self-employment of Persons with Disabilities.

(c) The information is not centrally maintained by this Ministry as on date.

Amount extended by NBCFDC to backward class people

2594. SHRIMATI NAZNIN FARUQUE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise, scheme-wise and district-wise details of amount extended by National Backward Class Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) to the backward class people in the State of Assam under various schemes during the last five years; and

(b) the year-wise, scheme-wise and State-wise details of comparative figures relating to other States during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI PORIKA BALRAM NAIK): (a) and (b) The details of amount extended to the backward class people by the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) in the State of Assam during the last five years is as under:

Year	Total amount of loan
2007-08	Rs. 100.00 lakh
2008-09	Rs. 100.00 lakh
2009-10	Rs. 050.00 lakh
2010-11	Rs. 100.00 lakh
2011-12	Rs. 825.00 lakh

Year-wise and scheme-wise details of comparative figures relating to Assam and other States during the last five years is given in the Statement (*See below*). District-wise information regarding the details of amount extended to a State is not maintained.