

- (a) the details of pension being paid to senior citizens by Central Government;
- (b) whether Government is spending only Rs. 124/- per capita per month on senior citizens;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the rationale therefor;
- (d) whether Government has received representations from several quarters to increase the Central monthly pension for senior citizens to at least Rs. 2000/- per capita per month; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) under which Central assistance is given towards pension @ Rs. 200/- per month to persons above 60 years and @ Rs. 500/- per month to persons above 80 years belonging to a household below poverty line. The States/UTs have been urged to contribute at least an equal amount from their own resources to this Central assistance.

(d) and (e) A Task Force has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission to prepare a proposal for a Comprehensive National Social Assistance Programme. The Task Force has considered various issues, demands and suggestions relating to pensions, including old age pension, received from various quarters and has submitted its report inter alia, recommending expanding the scope of coverage and increasing the quantum of pension.

Shelter for mentally challenged girls in Mumbai

1633. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that in Mumbai there are no shelters for mentally challenged girls;
- (b) if so, whether they are citizens of the country and vulnerable both within and outside homes;
- (c) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide shelters to those under-privileged girls; and

- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI PORIKA BALRAM NAIK): (a) to (d) Providing shelter to mentally challenged girls in Mumbai is a State matter. Information in this regard is not centrally maintained. However, the Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Government. National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (National Trust) has set up a Residential Care Centre under the Samarth Scheme in Mumbai for the Persons with Autism, cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities.

Audit of schemes institutes meant for persons with disabilities

1634. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) has undertaken an audit of effectiveness and performance of national institutes and national schemes meant for persons with disabilities on a national level;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI PORIKA BALRAM NAIK): (a) to (c) CAG conducted a Performance Audit of one of the seven National Institutes for persons with disabilities, namely, National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Kolkata. The Audit Report was laid on the Table of the Parliament on 61 September, 2011. The Report mainly related to the issues of Infrastructure, Human Resources, Services and Research & Development of the Institute. The Action Taken Report on the finding/observations has been submitted to CAG on 26th November, 2013.

Further, CAG conducted an audit review of the various programmes for persons with disabilities, implemented by the Central Ministries/States/UTs during the period 1998-99 to 2002-2003 and also implementation of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 in the Central Government/States/UTs. CAG in its report no. 14 of 2004-Performance Appraisal with regard to Empowerment of Disabled for the period ending on 31-3-2003, highlighted deficiencies in planning and implementation of schemes/programmes meant for the welfare of persons with disabilities resulting in benefits not