

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disability Rights Bill

2769. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of disability activists and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) have considered the final version of the Disability Rights Bill, now being readied for enactment, a watered down version of what the Centre had put up on its website in October, 2012;

(b) whether the activists pointed out that the Bill in its current form militates against the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) charter to which India is a signatory; and

(c) whether a memorandum has been submitted by the Disabled Rights Groups to the Centre suggesting amendments and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI PORIKA BALRAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) The Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Bill, 2014 introduced in Rajya Sabha on 7.2.2014 was finalized after extensive consultation with concerned central Ministries/Departments including Ministry of Law and Justice, all States/UTs and other stakeholders including civil societies. The Bill embodies provisions in line with the spirit and intention of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). However, this Ministry has received some representations pointing out that the provisions of the Bill do not fully comply with the provisions of UNCRPD and are also diluted *vis-a-vis* the draft Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2012 placed in the Ministry's website.

(c) The Joint Forum of Rights of Disabilities had submitted a representation suggesting certain amendments to the Bill. These suggestions relating to amendment in the provision relating to legal capacity, limited guardianship, reservation in establishments etc.

National Fund Commission for the Aged

2770. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Age-well Foundation has petitioned to the Prime Minister for setting

up a national fund for the aged and also a National Commission on the lines of National Human Rights Commission to look after their interests, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has made some arrangements for redressal of such grievances of the elderly people; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) Four letters of the Age-well Foundation have been received in the Prime Minister Office.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has enacted the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007 in December, 2007 which, *inter-alia*, makes maintenance of parents/senior citizens by children/relatives obligatory and justifiable through Tribunals; provides for revocation of transfer of property by senior citizens; medical facilities for senior citizens; and protection of life and property of senior citizens. The Act had to be brought into force by individual State Governments. By now, all States and Union Territories barring Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir have done so. The Act is not applicable to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, while Himachal Pradesh has its own Act for senior citizens. The Planning Commission in its Twelfth Plan document has recommended that efforts be made to set up a National Commission for Senior Citizens to look into their grievances.

Amount spent under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan

2771. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government has taken to ensure that the allocated resources were actually spent under Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) by all Central Ministries during the last three years;

(b) the difficulties in spending the allocated resources; and

(c) the action plan the Ministry is visualizing in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT) : (a) As information received from Planning Commission, guidelines for implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) were issued by the Planning Commission to the Central Ministries/Departments in 2006. Subsequently, based on the recommendations of the Narendra Jadhav Task Force