

college for students with hearing impairment in each of the five zones of the country. A Central Sector Scheme for this purpose has been finalized recently. As per the Scheme, funds are envisaged to be provided to existing colleges to upgrade their facilities. The Screening Committee set up under the scheme has the mandate to identify such colleges in the country.

Encouragement for enrolment of disabled children

2933. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government to encourage the enrolment of children with disabilities in Government schools; and

(b) whether Government-run schools are required to undertake any special measures or steps to prevent and punish discrimination against children with disabilities to ensure their integration into the mainstream educational institutions, if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) As per information provided by Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Department of School Education and Literacy, under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme, the States & UTs are supported to identify, assess, enroll Children with Special Needs (CWSN) in schools and provide them with appropriate assistive devices and supportive teaching learning materials and resource support. Efforts are also made under the SSA to persuade parents and communities to bring such children to schools, through appropriate training and school-parent interaction.

Their scheme titled "Inclusive Education for Disabled at Secondary Stage (IEDSS)" enables all students with disabilities after completing eight years of elementary schooling to pursue further four years of secondary schooling (Class IX-XII) in an inclusive and enabling environment.

(b) Yes, Sir. Under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, States and UT's have set up decentralized grievance redressal mechanisms, including the State Commission for Protection of Child Right (SCPCR)/Right to Education Protection Authority (REPA), to address complaints.

Welfare scheme for differently abled people

2934. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing welfare schemes for the differently