

persons with disabilities irrespective of their place of residence. The major schemes of the Ministry such as Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances (ADIP Scheme) and Deen Dayal Upadhyay Rehabilitation Schemes are implemented through NGOs which have also presence in rural areas. Moreover, the National Institutes of the Ministry have been providing various services which also take care of the needs of persons with disabilities of rural areas.

**Right of transgender persons**

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

(a) whether Government has formulated, or is in the process of formulating a national policy relating to the rights of transgender persons, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) if so, whether the recommendations of the Expert Committee submitted on 27 January, 2014 have been accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) The Government has taken a decision to formulate a National Policy on Transgender Persons.

(b) The Government has, in principle, accepted the recommendations of the Expert Committee.

**Atrocities against scheduled castes**

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

(a) the number of atrocities committed against the Scheduled Castes during the last three years *i.e.* 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14;

(b) the State-wise and type-wise number of atrocities;

(c) the number of these atrocities that were tried under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989; and

(d) the conviction rate thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) and (b) As per the Government