

**Rights of persons with Disabilities Bill**

2833. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any move, legislative or otherwise, to increase the quota for disabled persons in public sector employment from 3 per cent to 5 per cent, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) when will Government table the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) The Government has introduced the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 in the Rajya Sabha on 7.02.2014 which *inter-alia* envisages appropriate Government to reserve in every establishment under them, not less than five per cent of the vacancies meant to be filled for persons or class of persons with benchmark disability, of which one per cent. each shall be reserved for the persons with following disabilities:

- (i) blindness and low vision;
- (ii) hearing impairment and speech impairment;
- (iii) locomotor disability including cerebral palsy, leprosy cured and muscular dystrophy;
- (iv) autism, intellectual disability and mental illness;
- (v) multiple disabilities from amongst persons under clauses (a) to (d) including deaf-blindness in the posts identified for each disability.

**Pending proposals from Karnataka**

2834. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications are pending with Ministry from the State Government of Karnataka for inclusion of communities in reserve category, details thereof; and

(b) what are the steps taken by Government to speed up these communities' grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is entrusted to consider the proposals for inclusion of communities and castes in the list of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes. There are no proposals from Karnataka pending in this Ministry in respect of the above categories. However, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs have received recommendations from Government of Karnataka for inclusion of 52 communities in the Scheduled Tribe list of Karnataka.

(b) The Government has laid down the modalities for determining the claims for inclusion/exclusion in the reserved lists and other modifications in the orders specifying list of reserved categories. Those proposals which have been recommended and justified by the State Government/Union Territory Administration, concerned and concurred in by the Registrar General of India and the National Commission for Scheduled Castes/Tribes/OBCs, as the case may be, are considered for amendment of legislation.

#### **Complaints against manual scavenging**

2835. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has devised any mechanism to receive complaints against the practice of manual scavenging, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;

(b) the number of such complaints received by Government in the year 2014-15 from every State along with the action taken on them; and

(c) the number of people who were involved in the practice of manual scavenging who have been rehabilitated in other occupations in the year 2014-15 for every State, the details of the occupations in which they have been rehabilitated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) "Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013" (MS Act, 2013) has the following provisions for taking action against any person, local authority or any agency who engage or employ, either directly or indirectly a manual scavenger:

(i) Under Section 21(2) such offence may be tried summarily.

(ii) Under Section 22 every offence under the Act shall be cognizable and non-bailable.