

Law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities

280. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to enact a new law/amend the existing law on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and if so, the details and the present status thereof;

(b) whether Government has fixed any time-frame for the implementation of the said law/amendments, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that persons with disabilities currently have to go to a number of offices for getting different papers and certificates meant for disabled people; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to reduce the difficulties faced by the differently abled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) The Government introduced the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 in the Rajya Sabha on 7.02.2014 to replace the existing Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995. This Bill strengthens more rights and entitlement, monitoring and implementation mechanism. The Bill was referred to Parliamentary Standing Committee for examination and report. The Parliamentary Standing Committee submitted its report on 07.05.2015 and its recommendations are examined.

(b) No definite time-frame for enactment and implementation of the new proposed law has been envisaged.

(c) and (d) The Government has initiated a process to implement a project namely 'Unique Disability ID card for Persons with Disabilities' with a view to create a National database for persons with disabilities and to issue Unique Disability Identity Card to every person with disability. The project envisages transparency, efficiency and ease of delivering the Government benefits to the persons with disabilities, ensuring homogeneity and uniformity and streamlines the tracking of physical and financial progress of benefit delivery at all levels of hierarchy of implementation. For this purpose the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities has prepared a detailed project report for grant of Unique IDs to person with disabilities through a centrally web-based programme. This application envisages to reduce the hardships

being faced by persons with disabilities in acquiring Disability Certificates and in having easy access to benefits under various Central Government Schemes.

National Centres for the Elders in Maharashtra

281. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently set up National Centres for the Elders in the country, if so, the details thereof, Centre-wise; and

(b) the number of such Centres Government proposes to set up in the State of the Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) and (b) As per information furnished by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government has approved setting up of National Centre of Ageing (NCA), one each at Madras Medical College, Chennai and A.I.I.M.S., New Delhi, under tertiary level activities of National Programme for Health Care of Elderly (NPHCE). No such NCA is proposed to be set up in the state of Maharashtra.

Data regarding employed disabled people

282. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no official figures are maintained either at the Central level or at the level of States regarding employed disabled people;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons for not maintaining the data;

(c) whether Government will start maintaining the data at the Central level and also direct the States and Union Territories to follow it; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) As regards employment in Central Government Establishments, as per information received by Department of Personnel and Training from 59 Ministries/Departments till 22.02.2016, there are 13,603 persons with disabilities (visual impairment-1,379, hearing impairment-2,117 & Locomotor disability-10,107) in various posts/Services under the Central Government as on 1.01.2014. No