(c) if so, whether the Central Government intends to issue administrative and financial sanctions to these proposals; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) to (d) Relief for persons with disabilities is primarily a State subject by virtue of entry 9 of the State list of the Constitution of India.

At this stage there is no scheme in operation in this Ministry to provide financial support for construction and operation of hostel buildings for boys and girls with disabilities and also for establishment of care centres by the State Governments.

However, it has been decided by the Government to set up a Composite Regional Centre (CRC) at Jaipur, Rajasthan for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

Grants-in-Aid to Rajasthan under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme

1883. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is administering Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) and providing Grant-in-Aid for schools and vocational trainings being run by NGOs;

(b) whether Rajasthan Government had forwarded to Government 57 such proposals for 6.63 crores in the Financial Year 2014-15 and 50 proposals of 7.80 crores in the Financial Year 2015-16;

(c) if so, whether Government intends to issue administrative and financial sanction to these projects under the DDRS; and

(d) if so, by when, if not, the constraints therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) provides for release of grant-in-aid to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)/Voluntary Organizations (VOs) running various project for the welfare of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), including Special Schools and Vocational Training Centres (VTCs).

(b) to (d) The State of Rajasthan had forwarded proposals of 57 NGOs for grants worth 6.63 crores in the Financial Year 2014-15 and 59 proposals for grants worth

7.80 crores in the Financial Year 2015-16. Out of these, grants have been released in respect of 29 proposals worth 1.52 crores for 2014-15 and 13 proposals worth 0.57 crore for 2015-16. Proposals, complete in all respects, received in a financial year are processed for grant during the year. However, in case of deficiency in documents, the grant is released only after rectification of the deficiency. Remaining proposals are considered in the next financial year in consonance with the provisions of General Financial Rules.

Welfare scheme for senior citizens of Jharkhand

1884. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes being implemented for the welfare of senior citizens;

(b) the funds released by Government to each State particularly to Jharkhand under these schemes;

(c) whether Government has received requests from State Governments Particularly Jharkhand for more fund; and

(d) the number of old age homes functioning in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) This Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) under which grants-in-aid are given for running and maintenance of *inter alia*, Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units, Multi Facility Care Centre for Older Widows etc. The main objective of the Scheme is to improve the quality of life of Older Persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities etc. Implementing agencies eligible for assistance under the Scheme are Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies, Non-Governmental Voluntary Organizations, Institutions or Organizations set up by Government as autonomous/subordinate bodies, Government Recognized Educational Institutions, Charitable Hospitals/Nursing Homes, and Recognized Youth Organizations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sanghathan (NYKS) and in exceptional cases the State Governments/UT Administrations.

As per information received from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare that Ministry is implementing Senior Citizens' Health Insurance Scheme for Senior Citizens of age 60 years and above, belonging to Below Poverty Line (BPL) and other 11 defined designated categories such as MGNREGA Workers, Construction Workers, Domestic Workers, Sanitation Workers, Mine Workers, Licensed Railway Porters, Street Vendors, Beedi Workers, Rickshaw Pullers, Rag Pickers and Auto/Taxi