

Establishment of Composite Regional Centre

1078. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV.: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had agreed to establish a Composite Regional Centre (CRC) in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, whether Government intends to grant administrative and financial sanction for the CRC; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is setting up a Composite Regional Centre (CRC) at Jaipur, Rajasthan. The CRCs are funded for their functioning under the Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 (SIPDA) by Government of India.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, does not arise.

Fellowship for Divyangs undergoing M.Phil or Ph.D

1079. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that total number of fellowships for Divyangs undergoing M.Phil or Ph.D is mere 200 in a year and many do not get the fellowship considering the length and breadth of the country;

(b) whether Government maintains any data on the number of applications received and those denied the fellowship every year, if so, the details for the last three academic sessions; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to increase the number of fellowships so that none of the eligible Divyang candidates is denied fellowship to pursue higher studies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) The National Fellowship Scheme for Persons with Disabilities for pursuing M.Phil/Ph.D. was introduced from 2012-13. As per the scheme the number of fellowships that can be awarded every year is 200. During the first two years of its launch, the number of eligible applicants were less than 200. However, the number increased during the subsequent years.

(b) The number of applications received, eligible candidates and selected candidates are as under:-

Selection Year	No. of applications received	No. of eligible candidates	No. of selected candidates
2012-13	203	176	176
2013-14	271	178	178
2014-15	724	584	300*
2015-16	441	298	200

*Total no. of the selected candidates in 2014-15 included the unfilled slots of 2012-13, 2013-14 and also the probable drop out applicants.

(c) No, Sir.

Social security schemes for poor

1080. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is implementing schemes/programmes for providing social security to the poor and most disadvantaged section of the society;

(b) if so, funds allocated, released and utilized for the purpose along with the number of beneficiaries during each of the last three years and the current year for North Eastern Region (NER);

(c) whether Government has discontinued some of the social security schemes, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government has evaluated the performance/effectiveness of the schemes/programmes and if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing schemes for social, educational and economic empowerment of specified target groups which, *inter-alia*, include Scheduled Castes (SCs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Economically Backward Classes (EBCs), and Persons with Disabilities.

(b) Details of the funds released and the beneficiaries covered during each of the last three years and the current year in North Eastern Region (NER) are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) No scheme of the Ministry for its target groups has been discontinued.