

Skill development of persons with disabilities

3300. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to provide various kinds of skill upgradation to the persons with disabilities in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such plans and the number of disabled people trained under such schemes; 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 National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) was launched in March, 2015. The National Action Plan sets a target of skilling 25 lakh PwDs during the period from 2015-16 to 2021-22.

The NAP envisages skilling of PwDs through a network of empanelled training partners (ETPs) comprising of Government organisations and non-Govt. organisations. The guidelines for skill development of PwDs have been framed as a part of scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities (SIPDA). In addition, skill training is also imparted under Vocational Training Centre (VTC) project of Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) being run by this Department.

Under both the schemes mentioned above, ₹ 46.33 crore was released for skill training of 41,379 Persons with Disabilities during the year 2015-16 and ₹ 20.85 crore has been released for skill training of 49,632 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) during the year 2016-17 (as on 27.03.2017).

- (c) Not applicable.

Approach for development of various castes

3301. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the target group-wise approach adopted for economic, social and educational development of various castes during the Twelfth Five Year Plan period has yielded positive results;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and