

Norms for issuance of disability certificate

3304. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of norms/rules for issuance of disability certificates to persons who have unfortunately become disabled due to road accidents or some other accidents;
- (b) whether there is any time-frame fixed within which the disability certificates should be obtained by such persons; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) As per Section 2(i) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, "disability" means - (i) blindness; (ii) low vision; (iii) leprosy-cured; (iv) hearing impairment; (v) locomotor disability; (vi) mental retardation and (vii) mental illness.

The Government has notified the guidelines for evaluation of various disabilities and procedure for certification in June 2001. Subsequently, Government has also notified guidelines for evaluation and assessment of mental illness and procedure for certification in February, 2002. The procedure for issuance of disability certificate has been streamlined by the Central Government *vide* the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Amendment Rules 2009 notified on 30th December, 2009. These rules are uniformly applicable for grant of disability certificates to persons with disabilities including those who become disabled due to road accidents or some other accidents.

(b) and (c) As per rule 4(2) of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Amendment Rules 2009, the disability certificate shall be issued as far as possible, within a week from the date of receipt of the application by the medical authority, but in any case, not later than one month from such date.

Vacancies in National Commission for Safai Karamcharis

3305. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis does not have even a single member, resulting in non-redressal of grievances;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of steps being taken by Government to fill these vacancies to restore normal functioning and activities of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) to (c) No Sir. Chairperson and two Members have been appointed in the national Commission for Safai Karamcharis (NCSK) w.e.f. 16.03.2017.

Making buildings compatible for disabled persons

3306. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued any official notification regarding making all Government and other buildings compatible for disabled persons;
- (b) whether Government is taking any follow up action to ensure that the notification in this regard is implemented *in toto*, at the earliest; and
- (c) what is the deadline issued by Government for implementing the direction contained in the notification in this regard and what action has Government taken against those who have not followed the directions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPWD Act) notified by the Government on 28.12.2016 envisages framing of rules, laying down the standards of accessibility for the physical environment, transportation, information and communications, including appropriate technologies and systems, and other facilities and services provided to the public in urban and rural areas.

Draft rules under the Act have already been notified in the Gazette of India *vide* GSR 237(E) dated 10.3.2017 inviting objections and suggestions from the public.

- (c) As per Section 45. (1) of the RWDP Act, existing public buildings are required to be made accessible in accordance with the rules formulated by the Central Government within a period not exceeding five years from the date of notification of such rules.