

(c) The Department implements Deen Dayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which grant-in-aid is provided to NGOs/voluntary organisations for projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, including homeless, aimed at enabling persons with disabilities to reach their optimal, physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or social functional level. Further the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities also implements the following schemes with a view to provide rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities:-

1. SAMARTH (a respite care residential scheme for children) to provide respite homes for orphans, abandoned, families in crisis and also for persons with disabilities from BPL and allied families including destitute, with at least one of the four disabilities covered under National Trust Act, 1999.
2. Gharunda, (a scheme for group home for adults) to provide an assured home and minimum quality care services throughout the life of persons with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities with adequate and quality care services with acceptable living standards including provision for basic medical care for professional doctors.

(d) No, Sir.

Maintenance and welfare of parents and Senior Citizens Amendment Bill

463. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of the 'Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Amendment Bill', which is related to the social security for the elderly people of the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the progress which has been made so far under this Bill?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) The proposed

'Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Amendment Bill' has the following major salient features:

- (i) Definition of "children" and 'parents' has been expanded.
- (ii) Definition of 'maintenance' and 'welfare' has been expanded.
- (iii) Mode of submission of application for maintenance has been enlarged.
- (iv) Ceiling of ₹ 10, 000/- as maintenance amount has been removed.
- (v) Preference to dispose of applications of senior citizens, above eighty years of age, early has been included.
- (vi) Registration of Senior Citizens Care Homes/Homecare Service Agencies etc. have been included.
- (vii) Minimum standards for senior citizen care homes has been included in the Bill.
- (viii) Appointment of Nodal Police Officers for Senior Citizens in every Police Station and District level Special Police Unit for Senior Citizens has been included.
- (ix) Maintenance of Helpline for senior citizens has been included.

Consultation/comments on the draft bill have been obtained from the concerned stakeholders such as Central Ministries/Departments/State Governments/UT Administrations/Members of the Civil Societies etc.

National policy for senior citizens' welfare

464. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry in order to improve services and benefits, is drawing a national policy for senior citizens;
- (b) whether it is being brought as an amendment to 'Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana' (RVY) or an altogether new initiative; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?