

- (c) how much amount has been allocated to these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) No sir, there is no consulting agency which have been attached with the Department and its affiliated bodies.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Safety of sanitation workers

1260. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has issued any guidelines to the States and Union Territories about the safety of sanitation workers particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic situation; and

- (b) what steps have been taken by the Ministry to persuade States to provide adequate safety gear and mechanized equipments to all sanitation workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE): (a) Yes Sir.

- (b) Government have notified "Prohibition on Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Rules, 2013 (MS Rules, 2013)" under which it is mandatory for the employer to provide the safety gear, devices and ensure safety precautions as prescribed in the Rules. Under these Rules, the worker engaged for cleaning sewer or septic tank is also required to be provided insurance cover for ₹10 lakhs for which the premium shall be paid by the employer.

Welfare and rehabilitation of PwDs

1261. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the schemes/projects being implemented for the welfare and rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), physically and mentally challenged persons in the country especially in the State of Maharashtra;

- (b) whether Government has constituted a Committee to review the existing National Policy for PwDs to bring it in consonance with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of PwDs;

(c) if so, the details of the recommendation of the Committee and the action taken by Government thereto; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to provide special assistance to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities has taken various steps for making the persons with disabilities self-reliant and is running several schemes/projects through its National Institutes, National Trust, National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) and Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India (ALIMCO) as well as through State Governments/Autonomous Bodies/Organizations/Institutes and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) for the welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities including physically and mentally challenged persons throughout the country, including in the State of Maharashtra. Details of the major schemes implemented by the Government for the welfare and rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), physically and mentally challenged are given in Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The Government has constituted a Committee to review the National Policy for Persons with Disabilities. Report of the Committee is awaited.

(d) The Government has enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwDs) Act, 2016 which provides various rights and entitlements of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs). The Act mandates the appropriated Government and local authorities to take measures to ensure that PwDs may enjoy their rights equally with others. Relief to the PwDs is a State subject by virtue of entry 9 of the State list of the Constitution of India. However, the Ministry supplements the efforts of the States/UTs for the welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities/physically and mentally challenged persons through various schemes/programs mentioned in reply of part (a) above.

Statement

- (i) **Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase / Fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP):** Under the Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ Fitting of Aids/appliances (ADIP Scheme), the funds are released to various Implementing Agencies viz., Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation (ALIMCO)/ National Institutes/Composite Regional Centres(CRCs)/District Disability Rehabilitation Centres/Indian Red Cross Societies/ Non Government

Organizations etc. to assist the eligible persons with disabilities including physically and mentally challenged people throughout the country including Maharashtra for procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured, modern, standard aids and appliances that can promote their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation by reducing the effects of disabilities and enhance their economic potential.

- (ii) **Scheme for Implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (SIPDA):** The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) implements an umbrella scheme, namely Scheme for Implementation of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (SIPDA) throughout the country including Maharashtra. Under this scheme, assistance is provided for various activities relating to implementation of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, including, for creation of barrier free environment for persons with disabilities.
- (iii) **Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS):** The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) is implementing Central Sector schemes namely, Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) under which financial assistance is provided to Non-Government Organisations for various projects for the welfare of Person with Disabilities (PwDs) and District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) under which financial assistance is provided to set up and operate DDRCs at District level throughout the country including Maharashtra.
- (iv) **Scholarship schemes for students with disabilities:** Scheme of 'Scholarships for Students with Disabilities' for educational empowerment of persons with disabilities including physically and the mentally challenged persons in the country including the State of Maharashtra. The following are the components of umbrella scheme:
 - (a) Pre-matric Scholarship for SwDs (For Class IX & X);
 - (b) Post-matric Scholarships for SwDs (For Class XI to Post-graduate Degree/Diploma);
 - (c) Scholarship for Top Class Education for SwDs (For Graduate and Post-Graduate Degree/Diploma in notified institutes of excellence in education);
 - (d) National Overseas Scholarship (For Master's Degree/Ph. D. in Universities abroad);

- (e) National Fellowship for PwDs (For M.Phil and Ph.D in Indian Universities),
and
 - (f) Free Coaching for SwDs (For recruitment examinations for Group A & B and entrance examinations for admission in technical and professional courses).
- (v) **National Action Plan or Skill Development Persons with Disabilities:** The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) launched the National Action Plan (NAP) for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) including physically and mentally challenged persons in March, 2015 under the umbrella scheme of SIPDA which is implemented across the country (including in the State of Maharashtra) through which skilling of PwDs is conducted via a network of empanelled training partners (ETPs) comprising Government organizations (National Institutes/National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation/Composite Regional Centre/Other Government Organisation) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs).
- (vi) **Accessible India Campaign:** The Department of Empowerment of Persons of Disabilities launched the Accessible India Campaign in December 2015 with the vision of creation of barrier free environment for independent and safe living of Persons with Disabilities. The Campaign is being implemented under 3 components namely the Accessible Built-Up Environment, Accessible Transportation System and Accessible ICT Eco-System.
- (vii) **National Trust,** an Autonomous Organization under administrative control of the Department implements following 11 schemes for the welfare of persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities:
- (a) Disha: Early Intervention and School Readiness Scheme for 0 to 10 years,
 - (b) Vikaas: Day Care for 10+ Scheme,
 - (c) Disha cum Vikaas Scheme: Day Care,
 - (d) Samarth: Respite Care Residential Scheme,
 - (e) Gharaunda: Group Home for Adults,
 - (f) Samarth-cum-Gharaunda Scheme: Residential Care,
 - (g) Sahyogi: Care Giver Associate training scheme,

- (h) Prerna: Marketing Assistance,
- (i) Sambhav: Aids and Assisted Devices,
- (j) Badhte Kadam: Awareness, Community Interaction and Innovative Project, and
- (k) Niramaya: Health Insurance Scheme.

Rise in drug abuse cases

1262. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per report titled 'Magnitude of Substance Use in India, 2019', the country has nearly 2.1 per cent of population using opioid drugs, higher than the average global consumption;
- (b) whether as compared to the National survey on extent, pattern and trends of drug abuse in India of 2004, the problem of heroin addiction has worsened in the country as revealed by the survey of 2017-18; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) As per the survey report on 'Magnitude of Substance Use in India' the prevalence of opioid drugs in the country is 2.10%. As per the World Drug Report published by UNODC (2019), 0.70% of the global population was categorized as current user (last 12 months) of opioid group of drugs.

(b) The methodology of both the surveys was different and they have been conducted at an interval of more than 14 years. As per the 2019 report, the prevalence of heroin use in the combined male and female population is 1.14%. In the 2004 survey by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the prevalence of heroin use was 0.2% of population of the country.

(c) This Ministry is implementing a National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR) over a time period of 2018-2025. The Plan aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy involving