

The project districts have reported a cure rate of more than 80% which means more than 8 out of every 10 patients diagnosed and put on treatment under revised strategy are successfully treated. This is double that of the earlier programme.

To make the programme more accessible to larger segments of the population, and to supplement the Government efforts in this direction, emphasis is being given to also involve medical colleges, all general hospitals, private practitioners and NGOs in the programme.

DOTS coverage is being rapidly expanded in the country. From 20 million coverage in 1998, about 600 million population has been covered at present. It is envisaged to cover 850 million population by 2004 and the entire country by 2005 under the revised strategy.

Employment to disabled persons in Jharkhand

*348. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued any order to various Ministries/Departments/agencies to give priority in employment to the disabled;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the action taken by Government in providing employment to disabled persons in Jharkhand as compared to other States?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): (a) and (b) The Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 provides for 3% reservation in employment in the establishment of Government of India and Public Sector Undertakings against posts identified as suitable for persons with disabilities.

The Government has notified a revised list of posts identified for Persons with Disabilities in the establishments of Government of India and Public Sector Undertakings in June, 2001. All Central Ministries/Departments have been requested by Department of Personnel and Training that while sending the requisitions for filling

up of posts, which have been identified as suitable for appointment of persons with disabilities, a certificate should be given to the recruiting agencies that the policy relating to 3% reservation for persons with disabilities has been taken care of. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has also addressed State Governments regarding recruitment of persons with disabilities in government jobs to the extent of 3% of identified posts.

(c) As per reports received from State Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities, a provision of minimum 3% reservation in employment for persons with disabilities has been made in 26 States/ Union Territories including Jharkhand.

New Guidelines to promote FDI

*349. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently formulated some new guidelines with a view to promote FDI in various fields in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have asked various Ministries to boost FDI on the basis of said guidelines; and

(d) if so, the progress achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Government recognises Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) as a critical input for accelerated economic growth. The various steps taken to promote FDI include the following:-

(i) A liberal and transparent FDI policy, where

(a) there is no ceiling of foreign equity participation except for a few sectors where caps have been imposed on strategic and sectoral considerations.

(b) new sectors such as integrated township development (100%), insurance (26%), defence industry (26%), mass rapid transit system (100%), tea plantations (100% with 26% divestment condition), Print Media (26%), etc., have been opened to FDI.

(ii) *Investment Promotion Efforts*: The investment promotion