

(f) Clearance of a project depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies and obtains clearances on environment/forests/ rehabilitation & resettlement aspects as required.

[*Translation*]

Artificial Limbs to Handicapped

3137. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Institutions in the country providing artificial limbs, supports and callipers to the handicapped persons;

(b) whether the Government provide easy loans or any other type of assistance to these Institutions;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of handicapped persons provided artificial limbs, supports or callipers during 1993-94; and

(e) the target fixed for 1994-95 in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) There are 57 implementing agencies recognised by this Ministry who are providing artificial limbs, supports and callipers to the Handicapped persons in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Under the scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for the Purchase/ Fitting of Aids and Appliances, Grant-in-Aid is released to the implementing

agencies towards reimbursement for providing artificial aids/appliances costing from Rs. 25/- to Rs. 3600/- at free of cost to the beneficiary having monthly income upto Rs. 1200/- and at 50% of the cost to the beneficiary having monthly income from Rs. 1201 to Rs. 2500/-.

(d) It is estimated that 60,000 handicapped persons will be provided artificial limbs and callipers by the end of year 1993-94.

(e) 70,000 approximately.

Handicapped Girls Centres in U.P.

3138. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centres (Viklang Balika Grih) are being run for handicapped girls in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government are providing financial assistance to these centres; and

(d) if so, the financial assistance provided to each of these centres during each of the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K.V. THANGKA BALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Status of Chairman and Members of Backward Classes Commission

3139. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman and Members of Backward Classes Commission have been given the rank equal to the