

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BALESHWAR RAM): (a) to (c). One Bee-Keeping Supervisor in the state office of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission at Madras was associated with the Special Audit Cell on a temporary basis to assist them in times of necessity. The concerned officer assisted the Cell in addition to his normal duties.

(d) The Commission is considering measures to strengthen the Special Audit Cell in the Tamil Nadu State Office.

Appointment of disabled persons in private sectors

9489. SHRI A C. DAS: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the appointment of disabled persons in Private Sector is not satisfactory;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to send guidelines to the various Private Sector to provide employment opportunities to the disabled persons; and

(c) the progress made so far in implementing this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) and (b). There is scope for considerable improvement in the employment position of disabled persons in private sector. Government has been exhorting private sector employers to provide better training and employment opportunities to these persons. Programmes for training of disabled persons for various vocations are receiving particular attention and placement services are proposed to be integrated with these training programmes.

(c) This information is not available.

Help to the handicapped persons

9490. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have drawn up any plan for helping the handicapped regarding the removal of blindness, deafness, dumbness etc., and also for the prevention of these diseases especially among the children at the school, college and the University level in the International Year of the Handicapped;

(b) if so, whether any crash programme for this purpose has been drawn up so far;

(c) if so, the brief outlines of the plan/programmes; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (c). A statement is attached

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

(a) to (c). A National Plan for Prevention of Visual Impairment and Control of Blindness was launched by Health Ministry in 1977-78. In it provision has been made for ophthalmic care, curative, preventive, promotive and rehabilitative services. The Programme comprises activities at three levels, namely, peripheral, intermediate and central. The peripheral sectors have mobile units and provide community health care services in all villages, Primary Health Centres and sub-centres. Intermediate sector will comprise services at District and Subdivisional/Taluka/Tahsil. The Central Sector provide strengthening of the medical colleges, state eye hospitals, regional institutes and an apex organisation which is