

(c) whether the Government have received any complaint from the Members of Parliament in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A representation was received by IOC, in reply thereof IOC, had clarified the position.

Acquiring of 26 Allpur Road, Delhi

5865. PROF. JOGENDRA KAWADE : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have provided grant to Delhi Government for acquiring 26 Alipur Road, Delhi for Dr. Ambedkar Memorial;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Delhi Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Government has released a grant Rs. 10 crores to Dr. Ambedkar Foundation for acquiring 26, Alipur Road, Delhi of which the Foundation has released Rs. 7.12 crores as 80% of the total cost of acquisition to the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(c) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has completed all formalities for land acquisition but the matter is *sub judice* in the High Court of Delhi.

[English]

Monitoring Body of Handicapped People

5866. ER. SHANKAR PANNU : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cases of disability are increasing in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to set up a monitoring body in each State to envisage various ways and methods for economic rehabilitation

of the handicapped people to oversee the progress made in this regard; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Sample survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1981 covering only three disabilities *viz.* Visual, Communication and locomotor estimated that about 1.8% of the total population of the country comprised of disabled persons. Sample survey conducted by the same organisation in 1991 covering four kinds of disabilities (*viz.* visual, hearing, speech and locomotor) estimated 1.9% population as disabled. Both these surveys did not include mentally handicapped persons.

(b) and (c) The persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act prescribes that every State Government shall constitute a State Coordination Committee and a State Executive Committee to review and coordinate the activities relating to persons with disabilities, develop a state policy to address the issues faced by persons with disabilities as well as monitor and evaluate programmes for achieving equality and full participation for persons with disabilities.

[Translation]

Recruitment of Home Guards

5867. SHRIMATI USHA VERMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer the reply to question No. 2008 dated 9.6.98 regarding educational qualification for recruitment of Home Guards and state :

(a) the number of illiterates in Home Guards at present;

(b) whether these illiterate will be dismissed from Home Guard;

(c) if so, the time by which they will be dismissed;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government are aware that the illiterate lady home guards are misusing their position; and

(f) if so, the action taken against such persons?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (d) The number of such personnel in Delhi Home Guards is 8 at present. They will stand discharged from service after completion of their normal tenure of three years.