

against the Bhachawat Wage Boards recommendations have mainly been cited as grounds by newspaper establishments in cases of non-implementation of recommendations.

[English]

New Pattern HUDCO Scheme, 1979

*193. **Shri Rajnath Sonkar Sastri** : Will the Minister of Urban Development be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA has failed to meet the housing requirements of the registered applicants under New Pattern HUDCO Scheme, 1979 ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the inordinate delay ; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure allotment of flats to each one of them within the next two years ?

The Minister of Urban Development (Shrimati Sheila Kaul) : (a) The DDA has not been able to meet the full requirement of the registered applicants under the New Pattern Scheme, 1979. So far 1,06,669 flats have been allotted against the total number of 1,71,272 applicants registered under the Scheme.

(b) The remaining registrants could not be allotted flats so far due to constraints of land availability and infrastructural services.

(c) Concrete plans have been formulated for clearing the backlog under this scheme by 1994-95.

Scheme to help the Physically Handicapped

*194. **Shri Sobhanadreeswara Rao Vadde** : Will the Minister of Welfare be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated number of physically handicapped persons category-wise, and the details of the schemes to help the physically handicapped persons in the country :

(b) the amount earmarked by the Union Government for the welfare of physically handicapped persons during 1990-91 ; and

(c) the amount actually spent during the above period ?

The Minister of Welfare (Shri Sitaram Kesri) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Rs. 3223 lakhs.

(c) Rs. 3162.32 lakhs.

Statement

According to the Survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) in 1981, 12 million people suffered from physical disability of one type or another. Categorywise break up is as follows :

- 5.43 million—locomotor disability
- 3.47 million—visual disability
- 3.02 million—hearing disability
- 1.75 million—speech disability

The details of the schemes are given below :

(i) Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitment of aids/appliances

Aids and appliances costing upto Rs. 3600 are provided to disabled persons free of cost if their income is less than Rs. 1200 p.m. and at 50% of the cost if their income is between Rs. 1200-2500.

Aids and appliances costing upto Rs. 3600 such as crutches, callipers, artificial limbs, wheel-chairs, braille equipments, hearing aids etc. are made available to about one lakh persons every year. There are at present 152 limb fitting centres in the country.

(ii) Scholarships for the Disabled Persons

Government of India operates a scheme of scholarships from High School (Class IX) upwards for providing education to handicapped.

(iii) Assistance to Organisations for Disabled Persons

Welfare programmes for the handicapped are largely undertaken in a cost effective and flexible manner through non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). There are about 1500 NGOs in the country working in this sector. Through this scheme, financial assistance to the extent of 90% is given to NGOs for providing education vocational training and rehabilitation facilities to the disabled.

(iv) Petrol/Diesel subsidy to disabled, National Awards and other Miscellaneous Schemes.

Under the petrol/diesel subsidy scheme, handicapped owners of motorised vehicles are given 50% subsidy on actual expenditure on purchase of petrol/diesel.

(v) National Institutes

In order to effectively deal with the multi-dimensional problems of the handicapped population, the following four National Institutes have been set up in each major area of disability :—

- (1) National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta.
- (2) National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun.
- (3) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad.
- (4) National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Bombay.

These are premier apex level organisations in the respective fields in the area of education, development of manpower, training, vocational guidance, counselling, research, development of suitable service models and low cost rehabilitation aids for the handicapped. Two other organisations, namely :—

(1) Institute for the Physically Handicapped, New Delhi; and

(2) National Institute of Rehabilitation Training and Research, Orissa.

are service centres for the physically handicapped providing facilities for training physiotherapist, occupational therapist, prosthetic technicians etc.

(vi) District Rehabilitation Centre (DRC) Scheme of Rural Rehabilitation

To fulfil the need for comprehensive rehabilitation services for the rural areas where majority of disabled population live, a scheme called the District Rehabilitation Centre was launched in 1983 and since then 12 such centres have been established in different States.

(vii) Employment of Handicapped

To assist the employable handicapped, 23 Special Employment Exchanges, 55 Special Cells in the normal Employment Exchanges and 17 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres (VRCs) are functioning across the country. Though all of them are under Labour Ministry, funds are provided by the Ministry of Welfare on hundred per cent basis for Special Cells and on fifty per cent basis for the Special Employment Exchanges. The Vocational Rehabilitation Centres are funded solely by Ministry of Labour.

(viii) S&T Project in Mission Mode on Application Technology for Rehabilitation of the Handicapped.

Research projects through selected institutions all over the country are being supported under the Scheme of S&T Project in Mission Mode, to bring the fruits of technology to bear upon the life of the handicapped so as to improve their mobility, productivity, quality of daily living and integration in society.