

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:675
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
LIFE SAVING JACKET FOR BLIND
Singh Shri Ganesh Prasad

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the gravity of blind people facing danger to their lives while crossing roads in big/Metropolitan cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; (
- (c) whether a special jacket has been invented by some Indian entrepreneurs for wearing them so that they can be easily identified by the motorists;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to provide them the life saving jacket at nominal rates; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

a) & b) Government of India has been sensitive about the problems of Persons with Disability and is conscious of safety requirements of persons with visual impairment. Towards this end, following measures have been taken:

1) Installation of auditory signals at select Red Lights in public roads. 2) Engravings on the surface of select Zebra crossing and edges of select railway platforms. 3) Auditory signals in select elevators / lifts of public buildings. 4) Tactile path / railings etc on the pavements / roads. 5) Under the ADIP Scheme of the Ministry walking sticks are provided to persons with visual impairment for safe movement. 6) Central Public Works Departments has brought out detailed guidelines for ensuring disabled friendly built environment in all public places.

(c to f) No such invention has come to the notice. Therefore, the question of providing life saving jackets does not arise.