

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1770

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2009

RESIDENTIAL EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether a survey has been conducted to ascertain the number of mentally retarded children in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof;
- (c) whether there is a lack of adequate residential educational facilities for such children in the country ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and?
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate residential educational facilities for the mentally retarded children in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(D. NAPOLEON)

(a) and (b) Survey specifically to ascertain the number of mentally retarded children in the country has not been conducted.

(c) to (e) Residential education facility is generally not encouraged for children with mental retardation because the children with mental retardation are encouraged to live with their families and attend the neighborhood regular school. Nonetheless, under the Scheme of Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme, grants-in-aid are released to non-governmental organizations for running residential schools for the mentally retarded children in the country. Besides, through National Trust, school readiness scheme called Aspiration is supported for early intervention programme for children upto 6 years of Age. In addition , residential centres all across the country are also being supported under Samarth Scheme.