

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2447
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2010
STATUS OF MENTALLY RETARDED PERSONS
Pakkirappa Shri S.

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

- (a) whether the Government has made any efforts to ascertain the number of mentally retarded persons in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and outcome thereof indicating the number of such persons, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to rehabilitate mentally retarded persons in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(D. NAPOLEON)

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. The National Sample Survey Organization (NSSO) conducted 58th Round Sample Survey in July-December 2002. The State-wise estimated number of persons with mental retardation per 1,00,000 population is annexed.

(c) & (d) Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS) financial assistance is provided through Non Governmental Organisations for various projects for providing education and vocational training and rehabilitation of persons with mental retardation. During 2009-10, 361 projects were supported and an amount of Rs 3306.00 lakhs was released. Under Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ fitting of Aids and Appliances (ADIP), financial assistance is provided to the implementing agencies for distribution of aids and appliances to the needy persons with disabilities including mentally challenged persons for their physical, social and psychological rehabilitation. During 2009-10, an amount of Rs 6735.00 lakhs was released under the scheme to cover all persons with disabilities, including persons with mental retardation. National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMH), Secunderabad has been established with the objective of Human Resource Development, Research and Rehabilitation in the field of Mentally Handicapped. The Institute has provided rehabilitation services to 2,25,045 persons during 2009-10. National Trust an Autonomous Organisation under the Ministry is conducting a number of programmes such as programme for awareness, capacity building, programme for shelter and care giving etc. for the rehabilitation of Mentally Retarded.

(e) Does not arise.