

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1005

ANSWERED ON:15.11.2010

STATUS OF MENTALLY RETARDED PERSONS

Singh Dr. Raghuvansh Prasad;Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Singh Shri Uma Shanaker

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

- (a) whether the Government has started any welfare scheme and rehabilitation programmes for the mentally retarded children and adult people;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has set up children homes in various States including Bihar for development and care of mentally retarded children; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of said homes set up by the Union Government during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): Schemes being implemented for the welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities including mentally retarded children and adults inter alia include:

(i) Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/ Fitting of Aid and Appliances (ADIP) Scheme:- Under the scheme, aid and appliances are distributed to all types of disabilities that includes for mentally retarded persons also.

(ii) Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS):- Under the Scheme, funds for the Welfare of Persons with Disability are provided to the NGOs for projects like Special Schools, Vocational Training Centres, Project for Cerebral Palsied Children, Pre-School and Early Intervention and Training, half way homes for psycho-social rehabilitation of treated and controlled mentally ill persons etc.

(iii) Scheme of Incentives to the Private Sector for Employment of Physically Challenged Persons: The scheme has been launched, w.e.f. 01.04.2008. Under this Scheme, the Government of India provides the employer's contribution for Employees Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees State Insurance (ESI) for 3 years, for physically challenged employees employed in the private sector on or after 01.04.2008, with a monthly salary upto Rs.25,000.

(iv) National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation provides financial assistance for self-employment, training and skilled development of persons with disabilities (PwDs) including mentally retarded persons.

(c) & (d): This Ministry does not set up homes for mentally challenged children. However, under the Central Sector DDRS scheme, financial assistance is provided to Non- Government Organizations for providing various services to mentally retarded persons.