

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4218
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011
DISABLED-FRIENDLY OFFICES
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision or proposed to ensure all public dealing offices to be disabled friendly in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to provide logistic facilities to these physically challenged people at public places?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) As per Section 46 of the Persons with Disability (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the appropriate Governments and the local authorities shall, within the limits of their economic capacity and development, provide for – (i) ramps in public buildings; (ii) adaptation of toilets for wheel chair users; (iii) braille symbols and auditory signals in elevators or lifts; and (iv) ramps in hospitals, primary health centres and other medical care and rehabilitation institutions. The Government endeavors to make public dealing offices accessible as mandated by Law.

(c) The Delhi Division of Ministry of Urban Development had notified the amended Building Bye-Laws, 1983 vide No. K-12016/5/79/DDIA/VA1B Vol. ix (pt), dated 28th August, 2002, to ensure that the public buildings, which were erected in Delhi provided barrier free environment to Persons with Disabilities. These Building Bye-laws for barrier-free built environment in public buildings has been circulated to all the States and Union Territories for incorporation in the municipal building Bye-laws. So far, 28 States have informed that they have modified their building bye-laws.

The Ministry provides financial assistance to State Governments and various organisations /institutions run and supported by Central or State Governments under the Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995 (SIPDA) for making public buildings and websites accessible.