

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5152
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2011
GENDER SENSITIVE DISABILITY LEGISLATION
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

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

- (a) the percentage of women in the disabled population of the country;
- (b) the specific status currently available to women with disability;
- (c) whether the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities ratified by the Government prescribes the formulation and implementation of gender sensitive disability legislation;
- (d) if so, whether the Government intends to review the existing disability policies with a view to integrate the gender concern within it; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) As per Census 2001, 42.46% of the total disabled population of 2.19 crore, were females.
- (b) The Persons with Disability (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) (PwD) Act, 1995 has provisions for empowerment of persons with disabilities including women with disabilities, such as reservation in employment, education, affirmative action and non-discrimination etc.
- (c) Article 6 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) titled `Women with Disabilities` provides as follows –
 - "1. States Parties recognize that women and girls with disabilities are subject to multiple discrimination, and in this regard shall take measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by them of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.
 - 2. State Parties shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the full development, advancement and empowerment of women, for the purpose of guaranteeing them the exercise and enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms set out in the present Convention."
- (d) and (e) The existing National Policy for Persons with Disabilities, already acknowledges the need for special interventions for women with disabilities, such as protection against exploitation and abuse, education, employment, rehabilitation services, vocational training etc.