

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2982  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011  
LEGISLATION ON DISABILITY RIGHTS  
Dhruvanarayana Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government is coming out with a new and comprehensive disability rights legislation to replace the old disability act;
- (b) if so, the details worked out so far, and
- (c) the deliberations held with NGOs, State Governments and foreign countries in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir, A Committee was set up on 30.04.2010 consisting of experts in disability sector, representatives of various stakeholders including Central Ministries, State Governments, Non-Governmental Organizations etc. to study various suggestions received on the proposed amendment to the existing Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) (PwD) Act, 1995 and to prepare a draft new legislation aligning it with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCPRD) to replace the existing Act. The Committee held thirteen meetings and consultations with various stakeholders including disabled people organizations, civil society organizations working in disability sector. State Level consultation meetings were also held in several locations in the country including North East to garner views and comments of stakeholders. Further, a separate consultation was held on 9th and 10th April, 2011 with legal experts. The Committee has submitted the draft legislation on 30-06-2011 which is under consideration.