GOVERNMENT OF INDIA SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3609
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012
IMPLEMENTATION OF DISABILITY ACT
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian legislations on disabilities do not include a number of provisions from the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that India has ratified specifically in relation to persons with mental health disabilities not being allowed to enter into contracts or own property;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to introduce legislations in accordance with the convention?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) A Committee was set up on 30.04.2010 consisting of experts in disability sector, representatives of various stakeholders, Central Ministries, State Governments, Non-Governmental Organizations etc. to prepare a draft new legislation in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) to replace the existing Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation (PwD) Act, 1995. The Committee inter-alia, held as many as 24 State level consultation meetings with various stakeholders including disabled people organizations, civil society organizations working in disability sector. A separate consultation was also held with legal experts. The Committee submitted its report including draft legislation called the Rights of persons with Disabilities Bill, 2011, on 30.06.2011 which is under consideration.