

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:605

ANSWERED ON:26.11.2012

SCHOOL ADMISSION TO MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN

Mishra Shri Mahabal

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

- (a) whether any survey have been carried out regarding mentally retarded children in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposed to reserve some seats for mentally retarded children in each nearby Government school;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) As per Census, 2001, the total number of persons with disabilities in the country is 2,19,06,769 out of which 22,63,821 are persons with mental disabilities. The children with mental disability in age group of 5-9 years is 9% while in the age group of 10-19 years it is 12% respectively.

(c) to (e) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) ensures that every Child with Special Needs (CWSN), irrespective of the kind, category and degree of disability, is provided meaningful and quality education. Hence, SSA has adopted a zero rejection policy. This means that no child having special needs would be deprived of the right to education and they would be taught in an environment, which is best suited to his/her learning needs.