

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2667  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012  
DISABILITY AWARENESS PROGRAMMES  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking any steps to organise disability awareness programmes in the economically and socially backward areas of the country to make the disabled aware of their rights;
- (b) if so, the various schemes started by the Government in this regard; and
- (c) the funds released by the Government for these Awareness programmes?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (b): For spreading awareness through print and electronic media about the schemes and programmes of the entire Ministry, as also dissemination of information about the rights of the target groups including persons with disabilities, a budget provision of Rs.40 crore has been provided during the current financial year.

District Disability Rehabilitation Centres (DDRCs) are set up under the Scheme for Implementation of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights, and Full Participation) (PwD) Act, 1995 to provide comprehensive rehabilitation services including awareness generation. Till date 220 DDRCs have been set up in the country.

The National Institutes and National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, a statutory body under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment organize disability awareness programmes in the country. The National Trust also conducts Badhte Kadam programme whose objectives are to create (i) understanding about disabilities(ii) generate awareness about schemes for persons with disabilities & (iii) awareness about the rights and provisions under the United Nations Convention for Rights of persons with disabilities.

(c) An amount of Rs. 25 crore has so far been spent by the Ministry on awareness generation activities during the current year.