

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2707
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
SIGN LANGUAGE FOR HEARING IMPAIRED
Natarajan Shri P.R.

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

- (a) the total number of hearing impaired persons in the country;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to introduce laws to make sign language sub-titles mandatory and to declare sign language as Official Language;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to install visual announcements for hearing impaired people in Railway Stations and Airports etc.;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to install visual emergency alarms in public buildings; and
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to post visual sign language interpreters in public places?

Answer

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

- (a) As per Census, 2001, the total number of hearing impaired persons in the country is 12,61,722.
- (b) No, Yes.
- (c) There is a provision of coach indication board, train indication board and train running display board in addition to fixed signages indicating availability of various amenities and services at important railway stations.
- (d) and (e) No, Sir.