

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5655
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2013
AMENDMENT IN DISABILITY ACT
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the proposed amendment Bill in regard to the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1955 has been pending for the past several years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK)

(a) to (c) A Committee was set up on 30.04.2010 consisting of experts in disability sector, representatives for various stakeholders, Central Ministries, State Governments, Non-Governmental Organisations 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 submitted its report suggesting a draft legislation titled 'the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2011' on 30.06.2011. Subsequently, the Ministry had initiated consultations with concerned Central Ministries and Departments on the draft Bill. Based on the comments received, a fresh draft Rights to the Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2012 (Draft RPwD Bill, 2012) has been prepared and circulated to all States/UTs seeking their comments/views.