

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6495
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2013
DISABILITY AWARENESS PROGRAMME
Gandhi Smt. Maneka Sanjay

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

- (a) whether the Government is taking any steps in organising disability awareness programmes in economically and socially backward areas so as to make the disabled aware of their rights and of the opportunities they can avail;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c) : Awareness generation among persons with disabilities as to their rights and the opportunities available to them is an ongoing process undertaken by the Government. Wide publicity is given to the schemes and programmes of the Ministry for the welfare of persons with disabilities in all areas of the country, including backward areas, through measures like sponsored All India Radio Programme (Sanwari Jayen Jeevan Ki Rahein) etc.

Also, the seven National Institutes, office of Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Rehabilitation Council of India and National Trust, functioning under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in the field of disability undertake awareness generation programmes about rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

The National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities organizes Badhte Kadam, a pan India Mobile Disability Awareness Expedition every year since 2009 to raise awareness and to spread information about its schemes and programmes. Various events like awareness rally, melas, games, exhibitions, nukkad natak, dance competition, painting competition etc are organized as a part of the campaign.