

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2925

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2013

EDUCATION TO PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED PERSONS

Azad Shri Kirti (Jha);Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Nagar Shri Surendra Singh;Natarajan Shri P.R.;Rajesh Shri M. B.;Ramasubbu Shri S.;Singh Shri Ijyaraj ;Singh Shri Jagada Nand

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

- (a) whether the children/persons with disabilities are deprived of better education in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the remedial steps taken by the Government to provide education, training, rehabilitation and employment to the physically and mentally challenged persons in the country;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to bring education of disabled children under the Ministry of Human Resource Development from the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this direction, so far and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) and (b) A statement indicating the schemes and steps taken by the Government to provide various opportunities to the children/persons with disabilities including mentally challenged persons is at Annexure.

(c) and (d) Presently Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), which is the main vehicle under the Ministry of Human Resource Development for implementation of the provisions of The Right of Children to Free & Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 is providing inclusive education wherein children with special needs are mainstreamed in regular schools. Under SSA, over 32 lakh CWSN have been identified till March, 2013. Out of this, over 85% are enrolled and 1.5 lakh are enrolled in home based education and 28 lakh aids and appliances have been distributed under SSA since inception of the programme.

While large number of children with disabilities are enrolled under SSA as part of inclusive education, State Governments are also running special schools for children with disabilities. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is providing financial assistance to NGOs to set up special schools under Deendayal Disability Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS).

The Government's approach continues to be one of promoting inclusive education, but special education is also made available to those who need it.