

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1880
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2013
AMENDMENTS IN PWD ACT
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether a proposal to amend the Persons with Disabilities, Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act, 1995 is pending for the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to get these amendments passed and enacted at the earliest?

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 of 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 'The Rights or Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2011', on 30.06.2011. Based on initial consultations on the draft Bill, a fresh draft 'Rights to the Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2012' was prepared and circulated to all States and to all Central Ministries/Department. Based on their comments, the RPwD bill, 2013 has now been finalized and due process is being followed to take it further.