

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:737

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2013

REHABILITATION OF MENTALLY RETARDED PERSONS

Vijayan Shri A.K.S.

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

- (a) whether the Government is undertaking the rehabilitation of mentally retarded adults who have nobody to take care of them, in coordination with the State Governments;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds allocated and released to the State Governments in this regard during each of the last three years, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government is aware about mentally retarded women who are having children but nobody is taking care of their children; and
- (e) if so, the rehabilitation measures taken up for them?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI P. BALRAM NAIK)

(a) to (c) The primary responsibility for programmes for rehabilitation and care of persons with disabilities lies with the State Governments as per entry No. 9 in the "State List." The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States in their rehabilitation, including mentally retarded children and adults. Under the Central Sector Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), financial assistance is provided to Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), on the recommendation of the concerned State Governments, for providing various services to such persons with disabilities including Special schools/residential schools /Vocational Training/Half Way Homes etc. Further, the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, mental retardation & multiple disabilities, is undertaking rehabilitation of mentally retarded adults through four State Governments namely- Haryana, Tripura, Chhattisgarh & Uttarakhand. The details of schemes being implemented by the National Trust are as under:

(i) National Trust is implementing a lifelong shelter & care scheme namely Group Home And Rehabilitation Activities Under National Trust Act For Disabled Adult (GHARAUNDA) in coordination with the 4 State Governments and 8 Registered Organizations in the country.

(ii) The Gharaunda centre established in collaboration with Govt. of Chhattisgarh is functional, while the Centres, in other 3 States, are at different stages of being established.

(iii) National Trust is also implementing a short and long term residential care scheme named Samarth for orphan children and others in collaboration with Registered Organisations of National Trust. Under this, 119 centers have been set up in the country.

An amount of Rs. 1.00 crore has been allocated by the National Trust for this purpose and out of which Rs. 30 lakh was released to the Government of Tripura in the year 2011-12.

(d) & (e) The Ministry of Women and Child Development had introduced Swadhar scheme for Women in Difficult Circumstances in September, 2002, in which mentally challenged women are also included. This scheme is implemented mainly through non-government organizations to provide training for the economic rehabilitation of women staying in Swadhar Homes.

The Government has since formulated a new scheme namely 'Swadhar Greh' merging existing Swadhar and Short Stay Home schemes with enhanced financial norms.