

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2306

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2015

Policy for Disabled

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate policies for the disabled persons deprived of their fundamental rights;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these policies are likely to be implemented;
- (c) the number of persons suffering from autism and other forms of disabilities in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether the disabled persons are deprived of adequate rights due to lack of sufficient institutional mechanism ; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) The Government has already adopted National Policy in the year 2006. The National Policy recognizes that the persons with disabilities are valuable human resource for the country and seeks to create an environment that provides them equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation in society. The policy focuses on prevention of disabilities, rehabilitation, education, employment, social protection, sports and recreation etc for persons with disabilities.

(c) The Census 2011 covers data relating to number of persons with visual impairment, hearing impairment, speech impairment, locomotor disability, mental retardation, mental illness, multiple disabilities, and any other disabilities. The population of persons with disabilities, category-wise & State-wise is at Annexure. No separate data is available regarding number of persons suffering from autism.

(d) & (e) As per Section 2(t) of Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995, person with disability means a person suffering from not less than forty per cent. of disability as certified by a medical authority. All the persons with disabilities having disability 40 percent or more are covered within the ambit of the aforesaid Act, which recognizes the rights, the opportunities and needs of persons with disabilities and casts responsibility on appropriate Governments to take measures for their empowerment.

As per the provision of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995, the State Governments are mandated to develop schemes/programmes for education, rehabilitation, social security, health care of Persons with disabilities. As welfare of persons with disabilities is primarily a State subject, the Central Government however supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Central Schemes/Programmes and National Institutes. The major schemes for rehabilitation of persons with disabilities are Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme, Scheme of Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/Appliances, Scheme for Implementation of PwD Act, Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme etc. Seven National Institutes and two Central Public Sector Undertakings namely, Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India and National Handicapped Finance Development Corporation are providing various rehabilitative services to persons with disabilities. Further, as per the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995, the Chief Commissioner for persons with disabilities and State Commissioners for persons with disabilities are responsible for monitoring implementation of the provisions of the said Act.
