

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4830

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2014

POPULATION OF DIFFERENTLY ABLED

Lokhande Shri Sadashiv Kisan;Shetti Shri Raju alias Devappa Anna

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

- (a) the number of differently abled persons in the country, category and State-wise including Maharashtra;
- (b) the steps taken /schemes / programmes launched by the Government to provide better education, medical and other facilities to the persons with disabilities, State-wise including Maharashtra;
- (c) whether the Government provide funds to Non-Governmental Organisations for the welfare of differently abled persons; and
- (d) if so, the amount of funds allocated, utilized and the number of differently abled persons benefitted during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise including Maharashtra?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) Number of Persons with Disabilities category-wise and State-wise as per Census 2011 is given at Annexure I and Annexure II respectively.

(b) Welfare of persons with disabilities is primarily a State subject by virtue of Entry 9 of Schedule VII of the Constitution of India. Further, the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 casts responsibilities on the State Governments also to frame schemes/programmes for the empowerment of PwDs. However, the Central Government on its part supplements the efforts of the States in the area of welfare of Persons with Disabilities including better education, medical, rehabilitation and other facilities in all the States/UTs, including Maharashtra.

Important schemes of the Department of Disability Affairs in this regard are: Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), Assistance to Disabled Persons for Purchase/Fitting of Aids/ Appliances (ADIP), Scholarship schemes namely Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship scheme for Students with Disabilities (RGNF), scholarship scheme under National Fund and Trust Fund.

National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities (National Trust), implements various schemes for providing support to Persons with Disabilities suffering from autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and multiple disabilities.

Seven National Institutes under the Department of Disability Affairs provide various Medical and Rehabilitation facilities to the persons with disabilities.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Funds released and number of beneficiaries under the DDRS and ADIP schemes during the last three years and the current year State-wise are given at Annexure III and IV respectively.