GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1503 TO BE ANSWERED ON 12.02.2019

Employment Opportunities to Differently abled persons

No.1503: ASKED BY: DR. PRABHAS KUMAR SINGH

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

- (a) whether the Government adequately rehabilitates the differently abled persons including those with fifty per cent or more disabilities and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether despite the adequate measures in place, such persons are deprived of decent means of livelihood and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to create employment opportunities/ self employment for such persons; and
- (d) whether the Government has issued instructions to the private sector for providing employment opportunity to the differently abled persons, if so, the details thereof and the follow up action taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINSTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHNAPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) Relief to the disabled is a State subject by virtue of entry 9 of the State List of the Constitution of India. The Central Govt. supplements the efforts of the States through its schemes and programmes for employment of PwDs.

The Government has enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (RPwD) Act, 2016 which serves as a principal law for empowerment and rehabilitation of PwDs. The Act provides for various rights and entitlements for PwDs and also mandates the appropriate Government to take steps to promote their education, social security, health, rehabilitation and recreation and also to foster sporting activities. As per this Act, a person with Disability having 40% or more is considered as a person with benchmark disability. Chapter VI of the said Act provides for special provisions for persons with benchmark disabilities. Primarily the State Governments are responsible for implementing these provisions so as to effectively rehabilitate all PwDs.

(c)&(d) The RPwD Act provides for reservation of not less than 4% in Govt. establishments.

The Ministry also implements the Scheme of Incentive to Private Employers inter-alia in the form of payment of employer's contribution to EPFO and ESIC for a period of 10 years to promote employment opportunities in the private sector.

The Govt. also implements the National Action Plan (NAP) for skill training of PwDs to enhance their scope of employability in public and private sector.

National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC) provides concessional credit to the Persons with Disabilities inter-alia for self-employment activities which include setting up of small business, purchase of vehicle for commercial hiring, micro credit etc.

Further, the Department has also written to the industry associations to sensitize their member private companies to create a conducive environment for promoting employment for persons with disabilities. A National workshop was also held on 03.07.18 involving all stakeholders including private players in this regard.
