

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) (a) Yes, Sir. Extracts of the Prime Minister's Message are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT 2641/86]

(b) (c) & (d) A statement is attached.

Statement

There are several schemes for the economic upliftment of the disabled persons in the country, as briefly detailed below :—

Employment

3% of group C and D vacancies in Central Government and Central Public Sector Undertakings are reserved for handicapped persons.

22 Special Employment Exchanges and 41 Special Employment Cells have been set up across the country to help handicapped persons in job placements.

14 vocational Rehabilitation Centres have been set up to assess the residual ability of the disabled, arrange for their training and place them in regular employment. 11 Rural Rehabilitation Centres have been added to the VRCs to promote the placement of the handicapped in rural areas.

Government of India helps voluntary organisations in setting up programmes for vocational training to the handicapped and for getting up sheltered workshops. Voluntary organisations are also given financial assistance for appointment of placement officers to help the handicapped in open employment.

To encourage private sector employers to employ handicapped persons, the Government of India gives national awards annually to outstanding employers of the handicapped.

Self Employment

7½% reservation in petrol pump outlets/gas dealerships has been made in favour of the handicapped,

Nationalised banks provide loans to physically handicapped persons at a nominal rate of interest (4%) under the Differential Rate of Interest Scheme.

Ministry of Communications give public telephone booths to physically handicapped persons through which they can earn a living.

State Governments and local bodies allot kiosks, vending stalls to handicapped persons to help them earn a living.

Ministry of Welfare has launched a Scheme of District Rehabilitation Centres under which comprehensive and coordinated services for the rural handicapped are provided. The emphasis in the DRC, so far as economic upliftment of the handicapped is concerned, is to tap the unorganised sectors of the economy like petty shops, vending stalls, service centres and self employment in agriculture and allied sectors.

Investment in electronics industry

*706. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what has been the Government investment towards electronic industry in the Sixth Plan and the proposed investment during the Seventh Plan;

(b) whether the foreign investment in electronic industry is expected to increase during the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) The total actual expenditure by Department of Electronics during Sixth Five Year Plan was Rs. 171.10 crores. The financial outlays approved for the Department of Electronics during the Seventh Five Year Plan are Rs. 471 crores.

Of the various schemes/programmes being pursued by the Department of

Electronics, a number of them are directly industry-oriented and other programmes are in the nature of upstream investment involving setting up of infrastructure, development of technology and pilot production, manpower training etc.

(b) and (c) In the integrated policy measures for electronics announced in March 1985, and some notified thereafter, companies having foreign equity upto 40% have been permitted to freely participate in the electronics industrial sector which are open to wholly owned Indian companies. In some areas of high technology, majority foreign investment is also permitted. In the wake of this policy announcement, a number of foreign companies have shown interest in investing in electronics in India. However, there is no specific target set out for foreign investment likely to be generated during Seventh Five Year Plan. It will progressively increase.

[Translation]

Number of unemployed handicapped

*708. SHRI KUNWAR RAM : Will the MINISTER OF WELFARE be pleased to state the number of unemployed handicapped in the country during 1985-86.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : Although the information regarding unemployed handicapped persons in the country is not collected, the number of such persons who registered with the employment exchanges during 1985 is 40,833.

[English]

Residential accommodation to employees of Army Headquarters

*711 SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a majority of Central Government Civilian employees under the Ministry of Defence are given Government residential accommodation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the employees under lower formations of Army Headquarters are treated as Central Government employees but only 15 per cent of these employees are given residential accommodation; and

(c) if so, why all Central Government employees are not treated at par for allotment of residential accommodation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARUN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The civilian employees of the lower formations of the Army Headquarters are also Central Government employees. The percentage of these employees given residential accommodation varies from station to station. All Central Government employees not provided with residential accommodation are eligible for House Rent Allowance as per the Rules.

[Translation]

Printing of warning on liquor bottles

*712. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the warning that smoking is injurious to health is printed on packets of cigarettes and if so, the reasons for not writing this type of warning on bottles of liquor also; and

(b) whether Government proposed to make it obligatory to print such warning on the bottles of liquor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI) : (a) THE Statutory warning on cigarette packets is in pursuance of a Central Legislation, which does not apply to liquor bottles.

(b) Laws regulating intoxicating liquor are within the purview of the State Governments who are expected to undertake appropriate steps in this regard.