

as Government employees are concerned, I agree that it is hardly 44 per cent. It is quite inadequate. But, this year, we are taking up A, B, C, category of construction for the government employees raising the percentage of satisfaction from 44 to 55 per cent. It is our constant endeavour as far as economically weaker and low and middle income groups of employees are concerned, that we are seriously taking up the programme of construction. For example, this year, the D.D.A. is going to construct about 30,000 houses as compared to 4,500 only done by the previous Government last year.

As far as cooperative housing societies are concerned, there are cooperative societies about which I have received complaints. Those complaints are being enquired into. If there are more complaints, we will go into them. Apart from this, I have asked the department to go into the cooperatives seriously and find out which are the cooperative societies functioning fraudulently and which are not.

MR. SPEAKER: No more questions on this. Next question No. 718. Shri Daga.

विकलांग व्यक्तियों का वर्ष

718. श्री मूलचन्द डागा: क्या समाज कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या 1981 को "विकलांग व्यक्तियों का वर्ष" के रूप में मनाया जा रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो विकलांग व्यक्तियों के लिए कूल कितनी धनराशि दी गई है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस सम्बंध में कोई योजना बनाई है; यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) इस वर्ष कितने विकलांग व्यक्तियों को काम दिए जाने का विचार है और उन्हें किस तरह का काम दिया जाएगा ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total funds provided for various schemes relating disabled persons for 1980-81 is Rs. 559.43 lakhs.

(c) The information is laid on the table of the House.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the number of disabled persons proposed to be given jobs this year and the nature of jobs to be provided. However, All heads of Vocational Rehabilitation Centres and Special Employment Exchanges have been requested to step up the placement of disabled persons. Government is making efforts to increase the number of disabled persons in Government and Public Sector Undertaking Employment.

Statement

1. A National Committee on International Year of the Disabled Person under the chairmanship of the Minister of Education, Health and Social Welfare has been formed. The first meeting of the National Committee was held on 1st May, 1980.

2. A National Plan of Action for International Year of Disabled Persons with main focus on the following items has been drawn up:—

(i) Early detection and Prevention of Disability;

(ii) Education of Handicapped children;

(iii) Employment of Handicapped persons.

(iv) Research in various areas to facilitate integration of the disabled into community life.

3. Ministries of Health and Family Welfare, Education and Culture and Labour have constituted working

groups to consider detailed programmes in their areas of work.

4. Research in aids and appliances for the handicapped is sought to be stimulated through the regular scheme.

5. A public awareness programme to make people aware of the skills and potentials of the disabled persons is also being drawn.

6. A Working Group to consider legislation in the field of handicapped has also been constituted.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा: अध्यक्ष जी, देश के अन्दर 90 लाख लोग नेत्रहीन हैं, 4 करोड़ 45 लाख आज विकलांग हैं और 25 हजार बच्चे अंधे हैं। इस बात को देखते हुए मैंने यह प्रश्न किया था। क्या आप यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे कि इस के लिए जो प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को ज्ञापन दिया गया था, उस ज्ञापन में क्या यह बात भी लिखी गई थी:

"The plight of the blind is no better. Rs. 25 crores' national programmes for the control of blindness launched in 1977 has flopped and the Government has itself admitted that costly optical equipments imported under the programme are lying idle."

क्या यह बात सही है? जो ज्ञापन दिया गया था, उस में क्या बातें थीं?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: Sir, the hon'ble Member has rightly referred to Prime Minister. The Prime Minister has already written to all the Ministries concerned for the care of the disabled. I will give the details of the expenditure on the disabled during the last three years. In 1977-78 it was Rs. 190.1 lakhs; 1978-79 Rs. 260.77 lakhs; 1979-80 Rs. 220.2 lakhs. Sir, in 1980-81 we have doubled more than what was spent during the last three years, that is Rs. 559.43 lakhs.

श्री मूल चन्द डागा: अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा क्वेश्चन क्या था, उत्तर क्या दिया? मैं

द्वारा प्रश्न पूछता हूँ। गवर्नमेंट ने एडमिट किया है कि 25 करोड़ रुपये बलाइन्डनेस के कंट्रोल के लिए जो रखा गया था वह फेल हो गया। अब मंत्री महोदय उत्तर क्या दे रहे हैं। मेरे क्वेश्चन का उत्तर ही नहीं मिला। अगर मंत्री महोदय को समय नहीं मिला तो मेहरबानी करके इसे डेफर कर दिया जाए। मैं अपने क्वेश्चन को क्लीयर कर रहा हूँ। गवर्नमेंट ने यह एडमिट किया है -

"The plight of the blind is no better. Rs. 25 crores national programmes for the control of blindness launched in 1977 has flopped and the Government has itself admitted that costly optical equipments imported under the programme are lying idle."

यह जो ज्ञापन मिस्त्रिज इन्दिरा गांधी को दिया गया था, उसके बाबत मैं आपका क्या जवाब है? उसका पूरा जवाब दिया जाए।

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, the hon'le Member is commenting on the performance of the previous government and said that the programme had flopped. He has his own views. We are doing our best to bring about improvements.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : आपने उत्तर दिया है कि विकलांगों का एक बड़ा सवाल है। इस में आप उत्तर दे रहे हैं -

"It is not possible to indicate the number of disabled persons proposed to be given the jobs this year and the nature of jobs provided."

क्या मंत्री महोदय, इस प्रश्न को गंभीरता से नहीं लेना चाहते हैं? मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि कितने व्यक्तियों को कहां कहां पर नौकरी मिल जाएगी? आप जो रुपये खर्च करना चाहते हैं उसमें कितने ब्लाइन्ड एम्प्लॉय कर दिये जाएंगे? अगर मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर मंत्री जी के पास नहीं है तो इसका मतलब है कि गवर्नमेंट विकलांगों के प्रति विकलांग साबित हो रही है। इसका क्या जवाब है, यह बताइये?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, as I told the House the Prime Minister herself has written to each Ministry to reserve posts for the disabled and every Ministry has created special cells for the recruitment of the disabled persons.

श्री मूलचन्द्र डागा : कितने लोगों को आप ने नौकरी दे दी है और कितने लोगों को आप नौकरी देंगे ?

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, blind are not the only physically disabled persons. There are other types of disabled persons also. Last year, Sir, I wrote a letter to Chittaranjan Locomotive Works about one person but the reply from the Authorities was that there was no such provision for the employment to disabled persons. I have received many letters from my constituents in Durgapur that Durgapur Steel Plant, M. A. M. C. and Alloy Steel which are centrally controlled public section undertakings are not entertaining applications from the disabled persons for the purposes of employment. Here in your answer what you have stated is that a National Plan of Action for International Year of Disabled persons, with main focus on certain items, have been drawn up. The first one is "early detection and prevention of disability".

MR. SPEAKER : Why don't you put a question?

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: No. 3 is 'employment of handicapped persons'. You have in your answer stated that the Prime Minister has written letter to all the Departments and the Ministries.

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly put the question.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: I am putting it; kindly don't interrupt, Sir, May I know whether from this year physically handicapped persons will get preference for their

employment? I want a categorical answer from you so that all the Departments can reserve certain percentage of posts for the disabled persons for the purposes of employment.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Percentage is being fixed, as I have already mentioned, for the employment of these people.

श्री मनी राम बागड़ी : मैं यह बता कर सवाल पूछना चाहूंगा कि दुनिया में जितने अपंग हैं, अंधे हैं उनका पचास प्रतिशत भाग भारत में है, आधी आबादी ऐसे लोगों की भारत में है। आपने और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उनको कुछ विश्वास दिलाया है। यह विश्वास शायद उस वक्त भी दिलाया गया था जब उन पर लाठी चार्ज किया गया था और उनकी गिरफ्तारी हुई थी और उन में भगदड़ मची थी। क्या मंत्री महोदय को ज्ञात है और क्या उन के नोटिस में यह आया है कि अपंग और नेत्रहीन लोगों ने मजबूर होकर सरकार से उनको रोटी और रोजी नहीं दे पाई है उसको ले कर फिर से आन्दोलन करने की घोषणा की है? यह आन्दोलन न चले। क्या सरकार उनकी मांगों को पूरा करने का विचार कर रही है और कर रही है तो कौन कौन सी मांगें वह मानने जा रही हैं?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : Sir, I myself have had a discussion with the representatives of the disabled persons, especially the blind. I am happy to inform the honourable House that the representatives of the blind were fully convinced about the sympathy of the Government. As I have already stated, we are taking all the necessary steps in this direction.

N.C.E.R.T.

*720. **SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:** Will the MINISTER OF EDUCATION be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) how much amount was earmarked and spent under various heads in the Research Wing of N.C.E.R.T. during the last three years; and