

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (Divyangjan)
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 291
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2019

Financial Assistance to Mentally Retarded Children

291. DR. KIRIT SOMAIYA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the total number of mentally retarded children and their financial condition in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, whether the Government would conduct household survey to know the number and situation of these children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is any scheme to provide financial assistance to mentally retarded children at present and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, whether the Government is likely to announce any such scheme of financial assistance to the mentally retarded children?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) to (d) As per Census 2011, there are 5,95,231 children with mental retardation in the age group of 0-19 years. However, no data is available regarding their financial condition in the country.

In order to find out status of persons with disabilities including persons with intellectual disabilities, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation has recently conducted 76th round of National Sample Survey of the Households during July-December, 2018.

(e) & (f) Under Deendayal Disabled Rehabilitation Scheme (DDRS), grant-in-aid is provided to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for their projects relating to rehabilitation of persons with disabilities including persons with mental retardation aimed at enabling them to reach and maintain their optimal physical, sensory, intellectual, psychiatric or socio-functional levels.

Further, National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities, a statutory organisation under the Ministry implements 'Niramaya' Health Insurance Scheme. The scheme is to provide affordable Health Insurance to persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities. The enrolled beneficiaries get a health insurance cover upto Rs.1.0 lakh, by paying a nominal fee.
