

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2092
TO BE ANSWERED ON 20.12.2022

NEW MINISTRY FOR DIVYANG

2092. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:
SHRI MANOJ KOTAK:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to start new Ministry for welfare activities of Divyangs (physically challenged) people, like the one working in the State of Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the time frame fixed in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the measures taken by the Government for their self-sufficiency earnings or engagement for the Government Employment?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SUSHRI PRATIMA BHOUMIK)

(a) and (b) The Government created Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) as a separate Department in May, 2012 under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with a view to give focused attention to issues concerning inclusion and empowerment of persons with disabilities (PwDs). As such, there is no proposal for creation of any separate Ministry for Divyangjan.

(c) Section 34(1) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, provides for reservation of not less than four percent of the vacancies in Government establishment for persons with benchmark disabilities. Further, the Government launched 'National Action Plan for Skill Development of Persons with Disabilities' with a view to impart skill training to PwDs to enhance their scope of wage placement and self-employment. In addition, the National Handicapped Finance and Development Corporation (NHFDC), a Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, *inter-alia*, provides loan at concessional rate of interest to PwDs for their self-employment.
