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

#### LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2731 TO BE ANSWERED ON 02.08.2022

### **DISABLED-FRIENDLY BUILDINGS**

2731. SHRI THIRUMAAVALAVAN THOL:

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

- (a) the number of public buildings of the Government that are differently-abled person friendly with vehicle parking, hand-rails, accessible staircases, disabled-friendly toilets and ramps for them;
- (b) the percentage of the public buildings that are provided with above facilities; and
- (c) the improvements made in this regard for the differently-abled persons after the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 has been enacted?

#### **ANSWER**

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

(a) to (c): The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has informed that the retrofitting of all the 211 Central Government buildings across the country owned by that ministry for accessibility as targeted under Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan (Accessible India Campaign ) has been completed by Central Public Works Department (CPWD). Further, retrofitting works of 889 Central Government buildings belonging to other Ministries/Departments maintained by the CPWD has also been completed.

'Works, lands and buildings vested in or in the possession of the State' is a State subject. The details of buildings of States/Union Territories made accessible are not being maintained centrally. For guidance of the States and Union Territories, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has circulated 'Harmonised Guidelines & Standards for Universal Accessibility in India, 2021' and Model Building Bye-Laws (MBBL), 2016, containing accessibility guidelines.

In respect of State/UT Government owned buildings funded under target 1.1 of Accessible India Campaign, 21 State/UT Governments have reported completion of retrofitting work in 595 buildings.

After enactment of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, the improvements in accessibility features in public infrastructure is quite noticeable in various government buildings, railway stations, airports, buses and websites.

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