

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2535
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15.12.2015**

Dwarfism as Disability

2535. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

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

- (a) whether the Government is planning to notify 'Dwarfism' as a disability;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to include some other diseases/ malfunctions under the list of disabilities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT

(SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) & (b) While dwarfism is not included as a separate category of disability in the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) Act, 1995, it is covered under the category of locomotor disabilities as included in the said Act. However, the Parliamentary Standing Committee in its report on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014, submitted to the Parliament on 7/05/2015 had, inter-alia, recommended to include dwarfism as a specified disability separately.

(c) & (d) The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2014 introduced by the Government in the Rajya Sabha on 7.02.2014 contains 19 specified disabilities namely, (i) Autism Spectrum Disorder, (ii) blindness, (iii) cerebral palsy, (iv) chronic neurological conditions, (v) deafblindness, (vi) hemophilia, (vii) hearing impairment, (viii) intellectual disability, (ix) leprosy cured person, (x) locomotor disability, (xi) low-vision, (xii) mental illness, (xiii) muscular dystrophy, (xiv) multiple sclerosis, (xv) specific learning disabilities, (xvi) speech and language disability, (xvii) thalassemia, (xviii) sickle cell disease and (xix) multiple disability
