

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3555
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2015
Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre
Pradhan Shri Nagendra Kumar;Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof;
- (c) the details of the location identified for the said centre and the criteria-fixed for selection;
- (d) the details of funds sanctioned/released/ utilised on setting up of the said centre; and
- (e) the number of persons likely to be benefitted and the manner in which their talent, aptitudes and potential will be exploited in the best possible way through this Centre?

Answer

Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment
(SHRI KRISHAN PAL GURJAR)

(a)& (b): Yes, Sir. The main objectives of the proposed Centre would be as under:

- (i) To promote the use of Indian Sign Language (ISL) in India.
- (ii) To carry out research in ISL and create linguistic record/analysis of the language.
- (iii) To train persons in Sign linguistics and other related areas at various levels.
- (iv) To design, promote and offer programmes in ISL, interpreting and bilingual education, at various levels, through various modes including the distance mode.
- (v) To collaborate with other institutions and organizations of the Deaf to promote and propagate ISL.
- (vi) To create and promote literature in and about ISL.

(c): Proposed Centre shall be located in New Delhi.

(d): Earlier, the Ministry had approved establishment of Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), initially on project basis for a period of 5 years, as an autonomous centre of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi in July, 2011. However, the Centre could not take off due to various reasons.

The Project with IGNOU was to be 100% funded by the Ministry with a total estimated outlay of Rs.44.00 crore. The Ministry had released Rs.16.45 crore during 2011-12 and 2012-13 to IGNOU for the Centre. Out of this, IGNOU utilized Rs.2,18,16,213/- and refunded Rs.14,27,33,737/- along with interest amount of Rs.1,14,40,345, consequent upon disengagement of the Project .

The Budget allocation for the Centre during 12th Five-year plan is Rs 20.00 crore and BE for 2015-16 is Rs.4.00 crore.

(e) Does not arise as the Centre has not yet been set up.
