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Mainstreaming Disadvantaged Groups A National Priority: Kum. Selja

The Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, Kumari Selja launched a composite programme on schemes of her Ministry for persons belonging to Schedule Castes, Backward Classes, Safai Karamcharis and for the differently abled, here today.

She said the UPA Government was committed to inclusive growth, and an important component of this process was mainstreaming the disadvantaged groups in the society such as those who were physically and mentally challenged. Kum. Selja said keeping in mind the special needs of the differently abled, the government formed a separate Department of Disability Affairs. She said the focus is on physical, economic and educational rehabilitation of the differently abled. She listed out the various achievements of organizations under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, and pointed out that disadvantaged groups were availing in large numbers the benefits of the various programmes being run by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment.

On this occasion Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation distributed aids and appliances. The other main attractions of the composite camp were distribution of Self Employment loan and cheques, skill training offers, awareness generation of the schemes of the Ministry through mobile vans and flagging-off the Badhte Kadam programme of National Trust.

The Governor of Haryana, Sh. Jagannath Pahadia while praising the efforts of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, said the programme would be understood as complete only when each and every disadvantaged child is included as a beneficiary. Shri Pahadia said since State resources are limited the Government ought to involve NGOs to broadbase the schemes and for a more effective delivery.

Among the organizations that participated include National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation, National Safai Karamchari Finance and Development, National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation, National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation, National Institute of Mentally Handicapped, National Institute of Hearing Handicapped and National Institute of Orthopaedically Handicapped.
