

Development of 'Paudi Bhuyan' and 'Juang' Community

2429. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched any scheme for the development of 'Paudi Bhuyan' and 'Juang' community in Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of people in such communities who are benefited under the centrally sponsored schemes during last three years; and

(c) the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment does not provide any fund directly for the development of 'Paudi Bhuyan' and 'Juang' Community in Orissa. However, these communities have been identified as Primitive Tribal Groups in that State. Government of India provides lump-sum special central assistance for Tribal Sub-Plan for socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes. A part of the assistance is provided by the State Government to the identified Primitive Tribal Groups in that State for implementation of various programmes for their socio-economic development.

(b) and (c) Community wise details of beneficiaries under Centrally Sponsored Schemes are not maintained.

Representation from "Godavari Districts Athirasu Welfare Association"

2430. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation from the "Godavari districts Athirasu Welfare Association" in Andhra Pradesh on their lack of proper classification of backward caste status;

(b) if so, the details of the representation received;

(c) what steps will be taken to examine this representation from the "Athirasu" community;

(d) whether it is a fact that this association has been representing their problems for some time; and

(e) if so, the steps proposed to expeditiously examine this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the association has requested that Athirasu caste community be included in the Central List of Backward Classes for Andhra Pradesh.

(c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court has given directions in the Indira Sawhney case to the Government of India and all State Governments to set up a permanent body for entertaining, examining and recommending upon the requests of inclusion and complaints of over-inclusion and under-inclusion in the Central List of Backward Classes. Accordingly, National Commission for Backward Classes was reconstituted on 28.02.97 under NCBC Act, 1993. The Central Government acts only on the advice tendered by the Commission. The National Commission for Backward Classes has so far not made any recommendations in respect of this caste.

(d) and (e) The association has been advised to approach the National Commission for Backward Classes in the matter.

Abolition of Practice of Human Pulling Rickshaws

2431. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps his Ministry has taken to abolish human pulling rickshaws;

(b) how many States have banned the practice of human pulling rickshaws;

(c) whether Government have extended its assistance to such States to rehabilitate these rickshaw pullers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Allocation under various schemes for disabled

2432. SHR^y SATISH CHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of disabled persons in the country with State-wise break-up;

(b) the total allocation made by Central Government and State Governments under various schemes for the benefit of disabled alongwith actual release and utilisation of funds provided for the last five years and impact thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken fresh initiatives in formulating effective package and provide adequate financial provision for the benefit of disabled in the country alongwith details thereof;

(d) whether Government are considering strengthening/restructuring administrative organisation-dealing with various types of disabled persons; and

(e) if so, the details of action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) A Sample survey conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991 covering four disabilities — visual, hearing, speech and locomotor estimated that there are about 16.15 million disabled persons

constituting about 1.9% of the total population of the country. As regards mental retardation in a sample survey conducted by NSSO in 1991 for persons in the age group upto 14 years, it was estimated that about 3% suffer from delayed mental development.

(b) Against the total budget allocation (Plan) of Rs. 281.04 crores, the total amount of Rs. 201.62% crores have been released by this Ministry under various schemes for the benefit of disabled persons during the last 5 years. Details are given in Statement (see below). The impact thereof was satisfactory. The requisite information from the State Govts/UT Adms. is awaited.

(c) The National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation has been set up to function as an apex financial institution for providing financial assistance to disabled persons for their economic growth and development through self-employment and education.

(d) and (e) At present there is no proposal in this regard.

Statement

(Rs. in Crores)

Year	Budget Allocation	Release
1993-94	40.90	27.46
1994-95	41.90	41.91
1995-96	45.90	39.39
1996-97	45.90	36.21
1997-98	106.44	56.65
TOTAL:	281.04	201.62

Share Capital of NSFDC

2433. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the authorised share capital of National Scheduled Castes and Scheduled