

उत्तरकाशी जिलों में भोटिया; बिजनौर, हरिद्वार, देहरादून, नैनीताल एवं पौड़ी गढ़वाल जिलों में बुक्सा; देहरादून जिले में जोनसरी, पिथौरागढ़ जिले में राजी; और बहराइच, गोण्डा, खेरी, महाराजगंज तथा नैनीताल जिलों में थारू।

जनजातीय उप-योजना कार्यनीति, विकास के सभी क्षेत्रों को शामिल करते हुए लखीमपुर-खेरी एकीकृत जनजातीय विकास परियोजना, जनजातीय बाहुल्य गोण्डा क्षेत्र तथा ऐसे क्षेत्रों में जहां राजी तथा बुक्सा आदिवासी जनजातियों के प्राचीन समूह रहते हैं प्रचलन में है। इसके अलावा राज्य के पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में, पांच जनजातीय विकास परियोजनाओं के तहत फैले हुए जनजातीय समूहों के लिए विभिन्न सामाजिक आर्थिक कार्यक्रम शुरू किए जाते हैं। पिथौरागढ़ की राजी आदिवासी जाति के समग्र विकास के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा एक माइ-क्रो-योजना तैयार की गई है।

#### Facilities to Female Weavers in Rural Areas

\*436. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to provide facilities to female weavers and women engaged in handicrafts and handlooms in rural areas for improvement and development of their skill;

(b) what are the training facilities given to women for promoting the handloom and handicrafts industries; and

(c) what financial assistance was given during the last five years to the rural women engaged with the work of weaving, knitting, tailoring, embroidery, cane and bamboo works, handicrafts and handloom etc. in rural and hilly areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) 23 Weavers Service Centres provide short-term training course of four months duration to weavers who are trained in improved method of weaving, dyeing and designing and for this each weaver is entitled to a stipend of Rs. 250/- per month. The Weavers Service Centres also undertake decentralised training of weavers at the door step of the weaver for which a sum of Rs. 350/- per month is paid. These training facilities are

available to all weavers including women. On the handicrafts side, there are 515 training centres for imparting training in Carpet, Metal-ware, Cane and Bamboo, printing of textiles and misc. crafts. Moreover, there are 35 departmental training centres for cane and Bamboo crafts. This facility is extended to all weavers, including women.

(c) Government of India does not maintain separate statistics of expenditure incurred on training in handloom weaving and handicrafts for women. An estimated sum of Rs. 2712 lakhs has been spent on establishment of Weavers Service Centres which includes the amount spent for training of weavers. An estimated sum of Rs. 4450 lakhs was spent for training in handicrafts.

#### Discontinuance of Central Aid to Special Category States

\*437. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have discontinued giving aid to special category States;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this has adversely affected the development plan of these States;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to resume aid to these States; and

(e) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (e) Central assistance is made available to meet the development requirements of the Special Category States, as per approved Plan outlay, based on the availability of total funds. About 30 per cent of formula based total funds available for allocation are set aside for the Plan assistance of these States. Since their share in total population of the country is much lower, per capita assistance going to these States is substantially higher than the average of non-Special Category States. In the past, non-plan gap was also covered by Central