

generating assets through a mix of bank credit and the Government subsidy. The SGSY particularly focus on the disadvantaged sections of the rural poor and safeguards have been provided by way of reserving 50% benefits for SCs/STs, 40% for women, and 3% for persons with disability.

73rd Constitution Amendment Act

1181. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where the 73rd Constitution Amendment Act, 1992 has been extended to their scheduled area;

(b) whether it is a fact that this Act can benefit the grass root village level more than that of the Sixth Schedule extended in the Scheduled Areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) The provisions of Panchayats have been extended to the Schedule-V Areas of the States, namely, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) The provisions of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992 devolve greater powers on institution of self-Government than the powers enjoyed by the Autonomous Councils in the Sixth Schedule Areas. This Act benefits the village councils at grass-root levels by providing additional benefits, namely, (a) constitution of Gram Panchayats (b) election to the Gram Panchayats (c) reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at every level of Panchayats (d) setting up of State Finance Commission to make recommendations for distribution of taxes, tolls and duties between the State and Panchayats, and (e) devolution of powers upon Panchayats including in respect of 29 subjects listed in the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution.

CAPART assistance to rural artisans of North-Eastern States

1182. SHRI KARNEDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: