

Survey on indebtedness levels in rural and urban households

2078. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 59th Round Survey by National Samples Survey Organisation has revealed growing indebtedness levels both in rural and urban households in the country;

(b) whether the survey has revealed that the OBC household category has the highest incidence of indebtedness rates both in rural and urban India at 28.9 per cent and 21.00 per cent respectively, closely followed by SC category at 27 per cent and 19 per cent respectively; and

(c) whether the OBC and SC households depend on agricultural moneylenders and professional moneylenders rather than seeking institutional credit sources?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The incidence of indebtedness for OBC household category is 28.9 and 21.2% for rural and urban areas respectively. The incidence of indebtedness for SC category is 27.1 and 19.2 for rural and urban areas respectively.

(c) In rural areas, 16.5% SC households and 15.7% of OBC households reported borrowing from Non-Institutional Credit Agency as against 4.7% and 8.9% respectively from Institutional Credit Agency. Similarly, in urban areas 12.9% of SC households and 14.5% of OBC households reported borrowing from Non-Institutional Credit Agency as against 5.4% and 6.6% respectively from Institutional Credit Agency.

Reconstitution of National Commission for Scheduled Castes

2079. SHRI K. B. SHANAPPA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to reconstitute the National Commission for Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of members are presently in National Commission for Scheduled Castes; and

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(d) whether Government have any plan to increase the members in the Commission to facilitate wider representation from all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Commission consists of three members in addition to Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

(d) No, Sir. The present Members already belong to different States.

Construction of hostels for SC boys and girls in Gujarat

2080. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:

SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:

SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:

SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL:

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

(a) whether Government have received proposals from Government of Gujarat for sanction of 50 per cent Central assistance for the construction of Babu Jagjivan Ram Hostels and residential schools for SC boys and girls under the Centrally sponsored scheme;

(b) if so, the present status of these proposals; and

(c) by when the Central assistance will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) **Girls Hostel**

A proposal for construction of one Hostel each at Babu Jagjivan Ram Pratisthan (Govt. Girls Hostel) at Mehsana, Junagarh and Porbandar was received from the Govt. of Gujarat during 2005-06, out of which matching central assistance to the Hostel at Junagarh had been released during 2005-06 itself, as the documents were complete. Necessary documents in respect of remaining two Hostels, have been received from the Govt. of Gujarat subsequently.