

(c) the stage of consideration of the proposal and by when the revival packages are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) and (b) In order to look into the problems of credit availability, debt overhang, recapitalization etc. of Handloom Cooperatives and to work out a detailed strategy and an implementable action plan, a High Level Committee was constituted on 22.6.2006 under the Chairmanship of Managing Director, National Agricultural Bank for Rural Development (NABARD) by the Ministry of Textiles. The Committee, in their report, have recommended consideration of a financial package including recapitalization of Balance Sheets of Cooperative Societies and financing the credit needs of Handloom Weavers/Societies. The financial package recommended in the report of the High Level Committee also included, in its purview, 484 Weavers' Cooperative Societies which are considered to be viable and potentially viable societies in the State of Orissa. No non-viable society of any State is covered in the report.

(c) The recommendation of the High Level Committee were initially forwarded to the Ministry of Finance in the year 2007. Taking into the account the various observations/suggestions of the Ministry of Finance, received from time to time, the proposal of financial package, last recast by the Ministry of Textiles, stands submitted to the Ministry of Finance in July, 2010 for consideration.

#### **Caste-based census in Census 2011**

\*408. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a final decision on caste-based census in Census 2011, which is already going on;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if caste criteria is not included in Census 2011, in what manner Government proposes to estimate the caste population data; and

(d) whether recent judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court on quota in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka will not be violated, if caste criteria is not included in Census 2011?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) No Sir. The final decision on the conduct of caste- based census in Census 2011 has not been taken. The matter is under consideration of the Union Cabinet. The Union Cabinet has desired that "the matter might in the first instance be considered by the Group of Ministers (GoM)". The GoM under the Chairmanship of Union Finance Minister met three times on 1st July, 11th August and 19th August, 2010. The recommendations of the GoM will be placed before the Union Cabinet for a final decision.

(d) The judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court on the quota in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka has given directions to the State Governments on the issue of enumerating Backward Classes. There is no reference of the Census 2011 in the aforesaid judgment.

**Job placements as notified by Employment Exchanges**

\*409. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of total number of job placements as notified by the Employment Exchanges, over the last three years;

(b) the State-wise latest details of total number of candidates registered with the Employment Exchanges;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to ensure that maximum number of candidates have access to employment and livelihood opportunities; and

(d) whether Government could provide soft-skill training (such as computer skills, communication skills, etc.) to those registered with Employment Exchanges, thereby enhancing and updating their job-skills?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Placement of 2.64 lakh, 3.05 lakh and 2.62 lakh job seekers was effected through employment exchanges during 2007, 2008 and 2009 respectively in the country. State-wise details of placement effected through employment exchanges during 2007, 2008 and 2009 are given in Statement-I (See below).

(b) As per latest information, the total number of job seekers registered with employment exchanges as on 31st May, 2010 in the country was around 3.79 crores. State-wise details of job seekers registered with employment exchanges as on 31st May, 2010 are given in Statement-II (See below).

(c) The Government has taken up several initiatives for skill upgradation of youth to enhance their employability leading to better access to employment and livelihood opportunities. Some of the major programmes for skill development are as follows:

- (i) Craftsmen Training Scheme
- (ii) Apprenticeship Training Scheme
- (iii) Skill Development Initiative through Modular Employable Skills

(d) Employment Exchanges provide vocational guidance and career counseling to registered job seekers. Besides, National Council of Vocational Training (NCVT) has recommended introducing compulsory modules on communication skills, English language proficiency, entrepreneurship development skills, basic computer literacy, quality management tools and occupational safety and health under Craftsmen Training Scheme.