

(c) Grants are given to various cultural organizations under the Ministry of Culture for providing financial assistance to promote and preserve various cultures and cultural activities including Tribal Culture and activities connected therewith.

Special category status for Bihar

*277. SHRI N.K. SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group was constituted under the Ministry to suggest ways for industrialization of Bihar;

(b) if so, whether the group has come out with any findings or recommendations;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government proposes to accord the status of a special category State to Bihar to allocate funds and make funds available for industrialization in Bihar;

(e) if so, how and by when; and

(f) if not, what alternative measures Government proposes to bring the level of industrialization in Bihar at par with the national average?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) and (e) An Inter-Ministerial Group (IMG) was formed in the Planning Commission to consider and examine the request for Special Category Status to Bihar. The report of IMG has since been received. However, there is no specific proposal under consideration in the Ministry.

(f) In a deregulated industrial environment, the primary responsibility of industrial development is on the State Government. The Central Government supplements and complements this effort through various schemes for the development of industries with some of them focussing on specific areas.

The Government is implementing several schemes to promote industrialisation in the States. These include Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS),

Integrated Leather Development Programme (ILDP), Scheme for Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE), Micro and Small Enterprises-Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), Industrial Infrastructure Development Scheme for MSME, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) etc.

Employment for women in urban and rural areas

†*278. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of educated, uneducated, skilled, semi-skilled, unskilled, self-employed, employed and unemployed women in urban and rural areas of the country at present;

(b) whether the opportunities of employment for women have been increased in each of the above-mentioned categories during the last three years;

(c) if so, the year-wise details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the State-wise and year-wise funds allocated/released especially for Madhya Pradesh for this purpose during the said period; and

(e) the details of steps taken by Government to create additional opportunities for employment for women and for their upliftment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE): (a) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office. Last such survey was conducted during 2009-10. As per results of the most recent survey, State-wise percentage of women according to educational level (including skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled), self-employment, employment rates and unemployment rates for women on usual status basis in urban and rural areas in the country is given in statement-I, Statement-II and Statement-III respectively. (See below).

(b) and (c) Estimated number of employed women on usual status basis has declined from 14.90 crore in 2004-05 to 13.13 crore in 2009-10 and during the same period number of self employed women has also declined from 9.10 crore to 6.94 crore in the country. The percentage of educated women (secondary and above)

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.