

4. Suitable administrative machinery should be suggested at State and District levels to implement the Central sponsored scheme properly.

## VII. Construction of Hostels for OBC Boys and Girls

### Major Recommendations:

1. The location of the hostel building should be at easy accessible and safe area having sufficient water facility.
2. Wardens may be attached to nearby Government Schools/Colleges for mutual benefit of the school/college and the hostel.
3. Adopt/implement the best practices in different States.
4. Merit should be followed in the selection of students into the hostels.
5. Student boarders may be encouraged to participate in the development activities of the hostels.
6. The coaching of students appearing in public examinations may be extended to all the hostels.
7. The doctor of the local PHC should be instructed to extend his services for periodical medical check-up of the boarders.

### Project from Maharashtra under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Scheme

2311. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has sent a project under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the project has been sanctioned; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) No project pertaining to State Government of Maharashtra for construction of new hostel building has been received during 2013-14. However, the Government of Maharashtra has forwarded nine

proposals pertaining to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) for expansion of existing hostel facilities during the year 2013-14 under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojna (BJRCY).

(b) to (d) Out of nine proposals, eight proposals were incomplete and the State Government has been requested under intimation to the concerned NGOs, to submit the required information/documents, which have not been received. The remaining one complete proposal is under process for issue of sanction.

**Changes proposed in the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989**

2312. SHRI PALVAI GOVARDHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of changes proposed recently by the Cabinet to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989;

(b) the reasons for the proposed changes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some Ministers in the Cabinet have opposed the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for opposition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) The continuing high incidence of occurrence of offences against members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes indicates that the deterrent effect of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Act, 1989 is not adequately felt by the accused. Based on the consultations held with various stakeholders, it has been decided to propose amendments in the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Act, 1989, largely to cover the following five areas:

- (i) Amendments to Chapter II (Offences of Atrocities) to include new definitions, to re-phrase existing sections and expand the scope of presumptions
- (ii) Institutional Strengthening
- (iii) Appeals
- (iv) Establishing Rights of Victims and Witnesses