living devices such as walking sticks, elbow crutches, walkers/crutches, tripods/ quadpods, hearing aids, wheelchairs, artificial dentures, spectacles are distributed to the beneficiary senior citizens. The Scheme is entirely funded from the Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund (SCWF), established *vide* Senior Citizens' Welfare Fund Rules, 2016 notified on 18.03.2016. The expected outlay for the Scheme during the next three financial years is  $\gtrless$  483.6 crores.

(b) and (c) The Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana has been recently launched. The Scheme is being implemented in camp mode, after giving wide publicity before holding the camps.

## Upliftment of SCs/STs in Punjab

3957. SHRI SHWAIT MALIK: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken, so far, for upliftment of SCs/STs in Punjab;
- (b) the status and details of schemes and works taken up for their upliftment; and
- (c) if no steps have been taken, the reasons therefor?

I.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) to (c) Details are given in the enclosed Statement.

## Statement

Details regarding upliftment of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Punjab

(a) and (b) The Ministry is implementing various Schemes for educational and socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes in Punjab. The details are as follows:

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Release of funds in 2016-17 (₹ in lakhs)	No. of Beneficiaries
1.	Post matric Scheme (SC)	28008.00	309468
2.	Pre-matric Scheme (SC)	2821.00	125161
3.	Boys Hostel under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatravas Yojana (BJRCY)	71.71	100
4.	Girls Hostel under Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatravas Yojana (BJRCY)	571.78	200

II.

[RAJYA SABHA]

Sl.	Scheme implemented through Industrial	Sanction of	No. of	
No.	Financial Corporation of India	funds in 2016-17	Beneficiary	
		(₹ in lakhs)		
1.	Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Castes	174.13	01	
III.				
Sl.	Schemes implemented through	Release of funds	Number of	
No.	National Scheduled Castes Finance and	in 2016-17	beneficiaries	
	Development Corporation (NSFDC)	(₹ in lakhs)		
1.	Income Generating Scheme	6367.00	8734	
2.	Skill Development Training Programme	214.49	3442	
IV.				
Sl.	Schemes implemented through National	Release of funds	Number of	
No.	Safai Karamcharis Finance and	in 2016-17	beneficiaries	
	Development Corporation (NSKFDC)	(₹ in lakhs)		
1.	Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation	6.14	244	
	of Manual Scavengers (SRMS)			
2.	Micro Credit Finance	135.00	300	
3.	Mahila Smridhi Yojana	90.00	200	
4.	Mahila Adhikarita Yojana	135.00	200	

Since no Scheduled Tribes category is notified by the Government of India in the State of Punjab, no scheme is in currency in respect of Scheduled Tribes.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply (a) and (b) above.

## Enterprises supported by NBCFDC, NSCFDC and NSKFDC

3958. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any detailed reports on the functioning of micro enterprises development projects supported through various schemes run by National Backward Classes and Finance Development Corporation (NBCFDC), National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation (NSCFDC) and National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) are available;