

150 countries across the world participated in the Summit, out of which, more than 50% were women. The Summit brought together entrepreneurs, investors, educators, government officials and startup ecosystem supporters on a single platform to share their ideas.

The Summit focused on four innovative high-growth industry sectors viz. Energy and Infrastructure, Healthcare and Life Sciences, Digital Economy and Financial Technology and Media and Entertainment. More than 50 parallel technical sessions/master classes were held during the Summit deliberating on various aspects of these four key industry sectors. Networking opportunities were also provided to the participants for one to one deliberations among entrepreneurs, investors and mentors for taking their ventures forward.

Schemes for upliftment of SC and OBC Women

1548. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of implementation of many welfare schemes meant for upliftment of women belonging to OBCs and SCs, the number of beneficiaries availing them is very poor;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would pursue this matter vigorously so that the schemes could reach more and more women belonging to OBCs and SCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI KRISHAN PAL): (a) and (b) Various schemes are being implemented by the Corporations under the Ministry for upliftment of women belonging to OBC and SCs.

National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) provides loans for eligible women beneficiaries of Backward Classes through State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs)/PSBs/RRBs under the following schemes :

(i) New Swamima

(ii) Mahila Samridhhi Yojana (Micro Finance Scheme for women)

The loans are being disbursed to persons belonging to Backward Classes having annual family income less than double the poverty line (*i.e.* ₹ 98,000/- in rural areas and ₹ 1,20,000/- in urban areas) for the purpose that the benefits are availed by more and more women. The Scheme-wise details are given as under:—

New Swarnima

(₹ in lakh)

Financial Year	Amount disbursed	No. of beneficiaries
2014-15	3012.08	9609
2015-16	2637.00	9095
2016-17	2031.28	4119

Mahila Samriddhi Yojana

(₹ in lakh)

Financial Year	Amount disbursed	No. of beneficiaries
2014-15	9480.00	84594
2015-16	11418.50	102340
2016-17	14964.18	100598

National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) provides concessional financial assistance in the form of loan to scheduled castes persons including women living below Double the Poverty Line limit [Presently, annual family income of up to ₹ 98,000/- for rural areas and up to ₹ 1,20,000/- for urban areas] to set up their business. The financial assistance is routed through nominated State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) and other Channelizing Agencies (CAs).

Presently, the norms for coverage of women beneficiaries are 40% both in financial and physical terms. However, during last three financial years, the women coverage (in physical term) is more than the above norm under both Credit Based Schemes and Non-Credit Based Scheme. The details are given as under:—

(i) Credit Based Schemes

Financial Year	Total Beneficiaries	Women Beneficiaries	% age of Women Beneficiaries
2014-15	70,885	51,183	72.20%
2015-16	71,915	53,187	73.96%
2016-17	82,105	62,001	75.51%

(ii) Non-credit Based Scheme

Financial Year	Total Trainees	Women Trainees	% age of Women Trainees
2014-15	13,258	5,709	43.06%
2015-16	14,805	7,106	48.00%
2016-17	17,008	9,854	57.94%

National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) has been implementing Mahila Samridhi Yojana (MSY) and Mahila Adhikarita Yojana (MAY) especially for women from the target group of NSKFDC. Accordingly, NSKFDC has total disbursed ₹ 1521.53 crore (since inception upto 31.01.2018) for covering 342855 beneficiaries, out of which loan assistance of ₹ 294.63 crore has been provided for covering 127263 women beneficiaries under the schemes of Mahila Samridhi Yojana and Mahila Adhikarita Yojana by giving special focus for upliftment of women of the target group. Besides these schemes, 27329 women beneficiaries have also been covered under General Term Loan schemes.

In addition to above, NSKFDC has enhanced the sanctioning limit of Mahila Samridhi Yojana from ₹ 50,000/- to ₹ 60,000/- and Mahila Adhikarita Yojana from ₹ 75,000/- to ₹ 1,00,000/-. So that maximum benefit could be extended to women.

(c) Efforts are made on regular basis so that the benefits of the scheme are extended to more women belonging to the target population.

Utilisation certificates for pre/post matric scholarships

1549. SHIUMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released to States for pre and post matric scholarships to SC/ST students during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether a number of States have not furnished utilisation certificates in respect of the scholarships and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for timely release of scholarships to SC/ST students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA): (a) Central Assistance is released to States/UTs under Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Post matric and Pre-Matric Scholarship to SC/ST students. The details of total amount released to States/UTs for Pre and Post Matric Scholarships to SC/ST students during the last three years State-wise are given in the Statement-I to IV respectively (*See* below).

(b) The State-wise details of due utilization Certificates not furnished by States under Pre-matric and Post-matric Scholarship Schemes to SC/ST students are given in the Statement-V to VI respectively (*See* below).

(c) States/UTs have been advised to ensure payment of scholarships directly to the accounts of the beneficiaries. Besides this, regular follow up through correspondence,