

Credit Facilities to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Agriculturists

4760. Shri P. R. Thakur. Will the Minister of Social Welfare be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 5525 on the 12th May, 1968 and state—

(a) whether Government's commitment to create a different pattern of credit institutions for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe agriculturists has now been fulfilled,

(b) if so the details of the scheme and the progress thereof in the various States, and

(c) if not the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Department of Social Welfare (Shrimati Phulrenu Guha) (a) As stated earlier in reply to the question answered on 12th May, 1966, necessary instructions in regard to the Co-operative Programmes for Scheduled Tribes have already been issued

Since the Scheduled Caste agriculturists are not concentrated in well defined areas like the Scheduled Tribes but are mixed with the rest of the community, it has, not been considered feasible to form separate Societies for them. Their interests are intended to be covered by suitable relaxation, where necessary, of the regulations governing Service Co-operatives in the general sector

(b) A provision of Rs 160 lakhs has been made for Co-operative Programme for Scheduled Tribes in each T D Block for organising the following types of Co-operatives—

- (i) Service Co-operatives,
- (ii) Primary Marketing Co-operatives;
- (iii) Forest Labour Co-operatives; and
- (iv) Labour Contract and Construction Co-operatives.

(c) Does not arise.

Manufacturers of Clinical Thermometers

4761. Shri S. K. Tapuriah;
Shri P. N. Solanki;

Will the Minister of Health and Family Planning be pleased to state

(a) the number of factories manufacturing clinical thermometers,

(b) the number of thermometers manufactured year-wise during the last three years,

(c) whether these manufacturers have repeatedly refused to get the ISI mark for their products, and

(d) the steps which Government have taken to make the ISI marking compulsory?

The Minister of Health and Family Planning (Dr. S. Chandrasekhar):

(a) and (b) Three factories manufacturing clinical thermometers are registered under the Industrial (Development and Regulation) Act. These factories have reported production during the last three years as follows—

| Year | Nos in lakhs |
|------|--------------|
| 1964 | 13.15 |
| 1965 | 15.16 |
| 1966 | 11.73 |

In addition to these three firms, there are about 20 manufacturers in the Small Scale Sector. The figures of their production are not available.

(c) Standards for thermometers were published by the ISI in 1965 and so far no manufacturer has taken the ISI certification mark. It is not mandatory on the part of manufacturers to obtain the ISI certification mark. At present the manufacture of thermometers is not regulated under any Central legislation. It is, however, understood that a few manufacturers have now applied to the ISI for the certification mark.