

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3436  
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2006  
SWARNIMA SCHEME FOR WOMEN BY NBCFDC  
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**Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) has implemented the new Swarnima Scheme for women belonging to backward classes living below the poverty line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the women belonging to backward classes living below the poverty line are unable to pay the interest on the loan taken by them at the prescribed rate resulting deprived of the benefits of the scheme;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has ever examined this aspect of the scheme;
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to reduce the interest on loan given to the backward women living below the poverty line to enable them to get the benefits of the new scheme; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN)

(a) & (b) New Swarnima Scheme is one of the Term Loan schemes being implemented by National Backward Classes Finance and Development (NBCFDC) through State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) in various States for the women living below the poverty line. The details of the scheme are appended at Annexure-A.

(c) The loan is provided to the beneficiaries by SCAs @ 4% p.a. and no such information has been reported that the beneficiaries are unable to pay the interest on the loan taken by them at the prescribed rate.

(d) to (f) Does not arise.

ANNEXURE-A `NEW SWARNIMA` for Inculcating the spirit of self-dependence among the women of Backward Classes living below the poverty line.

? The target group of the `New Swarnima` scheme of NBCFDC is the women belonging to Backward Classes living below the poverty line.

? Salient feature of New Swarnima Scheme.

? The beneficiary women is not required to invest any amount of her own on the projects upto cost of Rs.50,000/- whereas the beneficiary has to invest 5 per cent amount of the total cost of the project on his own in the general loan schemes of the corporation.

? The period of repayment of loan is more than 2 years as compared to general scheme.

? The rate of interest on the amount of loan is less as compared to the general loan scheme of the Corporation.

#### ELIGIBILITY

? The women belonging to Backward Classes as notified by the Central / State Governments from time to time shall be eligible for loan under this scheme.

? The annual family income of the rural applicant should be below Rs.20,000/-. The annual family income of the urban applicant should be below Rs.27,500/-.

MAXIMUM LOAN AMOUNT 50,000/- Per beneficiary

#### PATTERN OF FINANCING

NBCFDC Loan	95%
SCA Contribution	5%

#### RATE OF INTEREST

From NBCFDC to SCA	1% p.a.
SCA to beneficiary	4% p.a.

#### REPAYMENT PERIOD

? Depends upon nature of scheme however the maximum period of repayment is two years more than the general scheme.