

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4481

ANSWERED ON:08.05.2007

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR WOMEN EMPLOYMENT

Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

**Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Khadi and Village Industries has entered into a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) for generating employment opportunities for rural women, through Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP);

(b) if so the details of employment generated through MoU, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has established convergence with Army Wives Welfare Association, Nehru Yuva Sangathan and Confederation of Industries for the benefit of women entrepreneurs; and

(d) if so, the achievements of KVIC for generation of employment with this effort, State-wise and Union Territory-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. Under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), a credit-linked subsidy programme of the Government, implemented through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), to provide employment opportunities by assisting individual entrepreneurs/self help groups, including women, in rural areas and small towns with population upto 20,000, women entrepreneurs are entitled to a higher rate of margin money assistance at the rate of 30 per cent as compared to 25 per cent for the male entrepreneurs in the general category. Convergence has been established by KVIC with Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD). Financial assistance is also provided under REGP for various backward forward linkages such as Entrepreneurship Development Programme, marketing, organising awareness camps, etc. KVIC has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding

(MoU) with the MWCD, for the benefit of women entrepreneurs under REGP. As per MoU, KVIC and MWCD have agreed to work together for generating employment opportunities for rural women, through REGP and also marketing their products. The State/Union Territory-wise details of coverage of women under REGP during 2006-07 (upto February 2007) are given at Annex. I.

(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. KVIC has also established convergence with various other organisations such as Army Wives Welfare Association, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan for the benefit of rural entrepreneurs to create awareness among them about REGP scheme and in the creation of market avenues under REGP. So far as Confederation of Indian Industries is concerned, KVIC has not entered into any MoU with them.

The State/Union Territory-wise details of progress made under REGP during 2006-07 in terms of village industry units set up, margin money utilised and additional employment opportunities generated are given at Annex. II.