

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:459
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2006
EMPOWERMENT OF TRIBAL WOMEN
Choudhary Shri Nikhil Kumar;Murmu Shri Hemlal

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assigned provisions for the empowerment of tribal women in the National Policy, 2001 on empowerment of women;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the National Commission on Women has made comprehensive recommendations in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the follow-up action being taken by the Government in this regard, State- wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY)

(a),(b),(c)&(d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a),(b),(c)&(d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 459 FOR 16.5.2006 BY SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR CHOUDHARY AND SHRI HEMMAL MURMU REGARDING EMPOWERMENT OF TRIBAL WOMEN

(a)&(b) The National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001 adopted by the Government provides for empowerment of women, including women belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. The Policy provides that in the matter of social empowerment of women through education, sectoral time targets in existing policies will be achieved, with special focus on girls and women, particularly those belonging to weaker sections including Scheduled Tribes. The Policy also calls for a review of all existing laws, including tribal laws, eliminate gender discriminatory references.

(c)&(d) National Commission for Women has made wide ranging recommendations like abolition of 'Dayan Pratha' in Jharkhand, review of Santhal Paragna Tenancy Act, enhancement of literacy levels, eradication of malnutrition and starvation, curbing naxalite activities, economic empowerment of women, promotion of forest based industries, priority attention to handloom and handicrafts sector etc.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs ensures empowerment of tribal people, including tribal women, through its various policies, plans, schemes and programmes. That Ministry provides for a separate women component under Special Central Assistance to Tribal sub Plan and programmes undertaken out of Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution, besides implementing an exclusive scheme of Educational Complexes in low literacy districts for education of tribal girls.

The National Scheduled Tribe Finance and Development Corporation implements the scheme of Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana which provides for term loan for schemes/projects costing upto Rs.50,000/- per unit at an interest rate of 4% to the beneficiaries who are women.