

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2694
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2008
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN
Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has created employment opportunities for women in rural and tribal areas by implementing various rural development schemes through the small scale industries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the achievements made during 2006-07 and 2007-08 in this regard;
- (c) the details of incentives provided/targets fixed and achieved in regard to new industrial units for creating job opportunities for women in rural and tribal areas in Orissa during the said period; and
- (d) the target set for setting up of such new units in the current financial year, State-wise and UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES(SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a) & (b) The Central Government has been supplementing the efforts of the State/UT Governments for establishment of small scale industries now known as micro and small enterprises (MSEs) thereby assisting in creation of employment opportunities including for women in rural and tribal areas, through specific schemes like Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), Trade Related Entrepreneurship Assistance and Development (TREAD) etc. In addition, the Government has announced a package for the Promotion of Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) in Lok Sabha on 27 Feb, 2007, which inter-alia provides for "Empowerment of Women Owned Enterprises" wherein 80% credit guarantee cover is provided under the Credit Guarantee fund Scheme and financial assistance up to 90 per cent subject to ceiling of Rs.9 crore under MSE Cluster Development Scheme, etc, is provided. The package also provides for conduct of exclusive skill development/Entrepreneurial Development/Managerial Programmes for women and other disadvantaged sections, free of cost, with a provision of stipend of Rs.500/- per month per trainee. With a view to encouraging women entrepreneurs, the Scheme for National Awards also has a provision for a Special National Award to an outstanding Women Entrepreneur. As per the available information for the year 2006-07, more than 24 lakh women are estimated to have got employment in MSEs in rural areas.

(c) & (d) Setting up of enterprise is an individual entrepreneurial effort. Central/ State Government, however, provide support up for setting up enterprises and for enhancing their competitiveness through the schemes which, inter alia, include assistance for easy availability of credit, training and capacity building of entrepreneurs, technological upgradation, accessing markets, improved infrastructure, etc. The Central schemes /incentives are not state specific and are implemented uniformly all over the country including in the State of Orissa. No state specific targets could hence be fixed for setting up of enterprises/generation of employment in individual States. However, as per Third All India Census of Small Scale Industries (2001-02), 224846 women were employed in such units in Orissa out of which 209039 are in rural areas.