

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:629
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
EMPOWERMENT OF DALIT COMMUNITY
Balram Shri P.

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to take up the issue of Dalit Empowerment afresh for the entire country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the Dalit people of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for empowerment of this community, gender-wise;

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT(D. NAPOLEON)

(a) to (c) The Government is already mandated to empower the Scheduled Castes through, educational, social and economic development. Broadly, educational empowerment is achieved through scholarship schemes and construction of hostels for them, including in Andhra Pradesh.

Economic empowerment is achieved through reservation in Government jobs and for self-employment through concessional loans. Some schemes for empowerment of SC women are as follows:

(i) Hostels for SC Girls

100% central assistance is provided to the State Governments/UT Administrations and the Central & State Universities/Institutions;

90% central assistance is provided to NGOs and deemed Universities in the private sector, only for expansion of the existing hostel facilities.

(ii) National Overseas Scholarship

Under the Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for SC etc, 30% of the awards for each year is earmarked for women candidates.

(iii) Mahila Samridhi Yojana of NSFDC provides loan under Mahila Samridhi Yojana for units costing upto Rs. 30,000/-.

(iv) Mahila Kisan Yojana of NSFDC provides loan under Mahila Kisan Yojana for project(s)/unit(s) costing upto Rs. 50,000/-. Under this scheme loans are provided to rural women beneficiaries to take up Income Generating Ventures in Agriculture and/or Mixed Farming related economic activities.

(v) Under Mahila Samridhi Yojana of NSFDC loan upto Rs. 25,000/- is provided to each beneficiary.