

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:363  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010  
WOMEN SELF HELP GROUPS  
Thomas Shri P. T.

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the rural development programmes/schemes which exist at present involving the participation of the Self Help Groups (SHGs);
- (b) the details of jobs assigned to such SHGs;
- (c) the total number of Women SHGs engaged in the rural development activities in the country, State-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to empower them further by equipping them with more financial incentives or loans; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/proposed to be taken in this direction?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. C. P. JOSHI)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.363 for answer on 06.12.2010

(a)&(b): The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), a major self employment programme which involves the participation of Self Help Groups (SHGs). SGSY focuses on organization of the poor into SHGs and training of the SHGs. The SHGs are assisted in accessing credit from banks, and subsidy from the programme is linked to bank credit, to enable the beneficiaries to take up income generating microenterprise of their choice, where they possess the requisite skills and for which backward and forward linkages are available in their area. It also aims to provide comprehensive marketing support for the products of the SHGs, including marketing intelligence, backward and forward linkages and marketing infrastructure, wherever it is necessary.

(c): A statement indicating, State-wise, the total number of Women SHGs formed under SGSY is at Annexure-I.

(d)&(e): SGSY has now been restructured as National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) to cover all rural BPL families in a phased manner for targeted and time bound delivery of results. NRLM would focus primarily on promoting women SHGs, their federations, and other livelihoods collectives. It is expected to act as a vehicle for women empowerment. NRLM will, on the one hand focus on building the credit track record of the SHG members through strategic use of subsidy and their capacity building and handholding and, on the other hand, ensure availability of credit at reasonable rates of interest to SHG members both for meeting their consumption needs and for taking up income generating activities. Towards this end, NRLM will engage pro-actively with the banking sector for providing better credit access to SHGs. The details are at Annexure-II.