

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:898

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2011

BOOSTING GDP THROUGH PARTICIPATION OF TRIBAL WOMEN

Balram Shri P.

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted/commissioned any study to assess the increased participation of women, particularly tribals, in the labour market and its impact on GDP growth in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the comparative position in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage women involvement especially tribal women in the development programme?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c) While, no specific study has been conducted by the Government of India to assess the increased participation of women, particularly tribals, in the labour market and its impact on GDP growth in the country, the Government of India is implementing programmes/schemes for the welfare and development of women with special focus on tribal women. Some schemes/ programmes implemented by the Government of India for the development of tribal women are as follows:

(i) Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution of India are released to State Governments for taking up specific projects for creation and up- gradation of critical infrastructure required to bring the tribal areas at par with the rest of the country. As per the guidelines, the projects should be so planned that at least 30 per cent of the benefits are targeted for women.

(ii) The National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation is running an exclusive scheme for economic development of scheduled tribes women titled "Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana" (AMSY). Under this scheme, the Corporation provides financial assistance up to 90 per cent of the scheme/project having unit cost up to Rs. 50,000/- at concessional interest rate of 4 per cent per annum.

(iii) Under the 'Exchange of Visits by Tribals' Scheme, the entire expenditure for the visit of schedule tribes people below the poverty line to other parts of country for a period of 10-12 days are met by the Government. According to this scheme, each team/group, consisting of 10 tribals will include a minimum of 5 women. This enables them to broaden their perspective and also create awareness about the development taking place in the country.

(iv) Under the Special Area Programme, provisions have been made for earmarking 30 per cent of the funds under 'Women Component' to be spent for income generating activities of women beneficiaries.

(v) Under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 there is no discrimination in recognition and vesting the rights against forest dwelling tribal women.