

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3083
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2009
SWARNIMA SCHEME FOR WOMEN BY NBCFDC
Saroj Smt. Sushila

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

- (a) whether the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) has implemented the new Swarnima Scheme for women belonging to backward classes living below the poverty line;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the women belonging to backward classes living below the poverty line are unable to pay the interest on the loan taken by them at the prescribed rate resulting deprived of the benefits of the scheme;
- (d) if so, whether the Government has ever examined this aspect of the scheme;
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to reduce the interest on loan given to the backward women living below the poverty line to enable them to get the benefits of the new scheme; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

- (a)& (b) The National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) has implemented the New Swarnima Scheme for women belonging to Backward Classes living below (the poverty line through State Channelising
- (i) Maximum loan amount is Rs. 50,000/-
 - (ii) The beneficiary is not required to invest any amount of her own in the project cost.
 - (iii) The maximum period of repayment of loan is 2 years more than the stipulated time under other loan schemes of NBCFDC.
- (c) to (f) The rate of interest charged from the women beneficiaries under New Swarnima Scheme is 4% per annum, which is already 2% lower than the interest rate being charged under General Loan Scheme of NBCFDC.