

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:274

ANSWERED ON:09.08.2012

SCHEMES FOR SELF HELP GROUPS AND RURAL ARTISANS

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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is planning to hold melas in major cities of the country to provide platform to Self-Help Groups, rural artisans and craft persons to sell their products;

(b) if so, details of the programmes; and

(c) the details of the special schemes for the self-help groups?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a) to (c): Under Swarna Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), central assistance is provided to the Swarozgaries through State Governments/District Rural Development Agencies by creating opportunities to showcase and market their products. Ministry of Rural Development releases funds for organisation of one regional SARAS fair in each State during a financial year. The Central assistance upto Rs 25 lakh and Rs 20 lakh is provided for organizing SARAS fairs in metro cities and in other cities respectively.

As regards special schemes for the self-help groups, funds for setting up haats which facilitate sale of SHG products, are released by this Ministry as follows. Funds up to Rs 15 lakhs can be released for creation of a Village Haat, up to Rs 1.5 crores for a district level Haat and up to Rs 3.00 crores for a Haat at the State Capital. These funds are shared between Centre and the States in the ratio of 75:25 while in case of Centre and North Eastern States, the funds are shared in the ratio of 90:10.