

Director's rank in Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) three years ago; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken against those found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) No such advice was tendered by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) three years ago. The advice received from the CVC during 1997 is under the consideration of the Board of Directors of Krishak Bharati Co-operative Limited (KRIBHCO).

Untouchability

5889. SHRI ABHEY SINGH S. BHOSLE :
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the practice of Untouchability is still existed in the society despite the Constitutional mandate;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to eliminate such heinous practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The practice of untouchability as reported by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations on the implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 is rather non-existent in 14 States/UTs, namely, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Daman & Diu, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Chandigarh and Lakshdweep.

It is, however, prevalent in mild form in 6 States/UTs, i.e. Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Goa and Delhi.

In remaining 12 States/UTs, namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Pondicherry, the practice of untouchability is still prevalent.

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Central Assistance is released to the States/UTs for strengthening of administrative machinery, legal aid, Special Courts, identification of untouchability prone area, surveys and other related matters.

As the problem of the practice of untouchability is linked with Socio-economic conditions of the Scheduled Castes, Government has formulated several developmental programme.

Loan to NSFDC

5890. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK : Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal from Karnataka SC and ST Development Corporation for sanction of term loan and working capital loan under direct loan of National SC/ST Finance Development Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the decision taken by the NSFDC in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) NSFDC has received 10 proposals from Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Corporations limited for sanction of term loan and working capital loan. Details of the schemes are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) The decisions taken by NSFDC are given in col. IV of the statement.

Statement

Details of Schemes in which both term loan and working capital loan have been sought by Karnataka SC & ST Devp. Corpn.

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	Cost of Scheme	NSFDC's Share	Decision of NSFDC
1		2	3	4
1.	Fish Seed Production & Rearing Farm	6.75	5.75	Sanctioned.
2.	LP Fast Food Centre	24.00	20.00	Sanctioned.