

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3586
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003
NEW SCHEME FOR ARTISANS
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Centrally sponsored scheme for the supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans(SITRA) has been merged with some other scheme;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to launch a Centrally sponsored scheme to help the rural artisans who are in misery due to the socio-economic changes in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the scheme is likely to be launched?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U.V.KRISHNAM RAJU)

- (a)&(b) Yes, Sir. Based on the recommendations of Prof. Hashim Committee constituted by the Planning Commission to review and rationalize the various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for poverty alleviation and employment generation, the Integrated Rural Development Programme(IRDP) and its allied programmes including Supply of Improved Toolkits to Rural Artisans(SITRA) were merged in one scheme which was renamed as Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana(SGSY).The scheme was launched on 1st April, 1999.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d)&(e) In view of reply given in part `c` above, questions do not arise.