

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:969  
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2007  
NEW SCHEMES FOR AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES  
Rawale Shri Mohan

**Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:**

- (a): whether the Government proposes to launch new schemes in Agro and Rural Industries Sector for the upliftment of the rural population;
- (b): if so, the details thereof; and
- (c): the extent to which it would be beneficial for Agro and Rural Industries?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES & AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a)to(c): Yes, Sir. The details and benefits of the new schemes in Agro and Rural Sector are given at Annex.

ANNEXURE

Annex. referred to in reply to parts (a) to (c) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 969 for answer on 06.03.2007

1. Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for Khadi Weavers and Artisans: This is a scheme exactly identical to the one under implementation in the Ministry of Textiles.
  2. Scheme for enhancement of productivity and competitiveness of Khadi Industry and Artisans: This aims to provide financial assistance to 200 of the `A plus` and `A` category Khadi institutions in a Public Private Partnership mode to release increase value addition to Khadi product, readymade garments, muslin khadi, setting up of common facility centre, need based dying and printing facilities besides ensuring better wages to artisans along with skill upgradation.
  3. Package for developing infrastructure of Khadi institutions including nursing fund for weak institutions: This scheme envisages replacement of looms and charkhas for increasing production of khadi and to expand employment base. The scheme involves renovation of sales outlets also.
  4. Restructuring of REGP: This scheme is going to be a comprehensive proposal which seeks to merge the major employment generation scheme viz. PMRY and REGP.
  5. Rejuvenation, modernisation and technology up gradation for coir Industry: The Scheme has two components. First is the rejuvenation and modernisation part. Increasing the utilisation of husk, better conversion rate of husk into coir products and providing additional employment to at least 50,000 new workers are some of the targets.
- The second part is to promote 5 mega clusters, one each in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Orissa.