

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2780  
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007  
SC ST OBC ENGAGED IN COTTAGE AND SMALL SCALE SECTOR  
Maharia Shri Subhash

**Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of persons belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC), Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) engaged in Cottage and Small Scale Industries in the country, State-wise and category-wise;
- (b) the number of cottage and Small Scale Industries running in the country separately, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated/proposes to formulate any plan to promote them; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD)

(a) & (b): The State/Union Territory-wise and category-wise details of village industry units set up by entrepreneurs belonging to Other Backward Classes (OBC), Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) as well as total number of such units set up under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) of the Government implemented through Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), since the inception from 1st April 1995 to 31st March 2007, are given at Annex. I. Similarly, the State/Union Territory-wise and category-wise details of micro and small enterprises managed by entrepreneurs belonging to OBC, SC and ST as well as total number of such enterprises, as per Third All India Census 2001-02 and the estimates for the year 2006-07, are given at Annex. II.

(c)&(d): The development of cottage and small scale industries is primarily the responsibility of the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Governments/Administrations. The Government (in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) however, supports and supplements the efforts of the State Governments/UT Administrations through various schemes / programmes relating to credit, infrastructural development, technology upgradation, marketing, entrepreneurial development, etc. The steps taken in this direction include the implementation of the following schemes, in the country:

- (i) Scheme of Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) has been launched in order to diversify and develop products under Khadi & Village Industries and also to improve the packaging of the various KVI products.
- (ii) Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) has been launched in October, 2005 for regeneration of traditional industries in 122 identified clusters in khadi, village industries and coir sectors..
- (iii) Rural Industries Service Centres Scheme (RISC), through the KVIC, for setting up of common facility centres (CFCs) to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries.
- (iv) REGP is being implemented for establishing village industries projects with margin money assistance from KVIC and loan from public sector scheduled commercial banks.
- (v) Financial assistance for participation in national and international exhibitions.  
The details of the new schemes under consideration for promotion of village and small scale industries are given at Annex. III.