

Sixteenth Loksabha

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Title: Regarding creation of an SC/ST Bank for Entrepreneurship Development .

DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI (AHMEDABAD): This Government has taken several steps to ensure the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in India. The Stand-Up India Scheme allows SC/ST and women entrepreneurs to avail loans in the range of Rs.10 lakh and 1 crore for setting up a new enterprise. Until 2016, the total number of entrepreneurs that have benefitted was 21,735 and the total amount sanctioned was Rs.4747.95 crore.

Furthermore, the Ministry of MSME has launched an SC/ST Hub to provide professional support to SC/ST entrepreneurs and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has created a Venture Capital Fund to promote entrepreneurship amongst the SC population, with a special focus on women. To supplement these efforts, I would like to request the Government to provide a corpus fund for the creation of an SC/ST Bank for Entrepreneurship Development of Rs.10,000 crores.