- (a) whether the Government has conducted/commissioned any study for participation of women, particularly tribals, in the labour market and its impact on GDP growth in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the comparative position in the current Five Year Plan; and
- (c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to encourage women involvement especially tribal women in the development programmes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAYANT SINHA)

- (a) & (b): The Government has not conducted / commissioned any specific study for participation of women, particularly tribals, in the labour market and its impact on GDP growth in the country. However, according to 68th National Sample Survey titled 'Employment and Unemployment Situation Among Social Groups in India', the workers population ratio (WPR) for women was 219 per 1000 persons whereas in respect of tribal women, WPR was 346 during July 2011-June 2012.
- (c) Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) component of the Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments provides for various developmental / welfare programmes of scheduled tribes under the livelihood, education, health and nutrition, etc. components. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides additional support to States by way of filling critical gaps and reiterates effective implementation of TSP through Coordination Committees meetings with State/UT Governments.

Scheduled tribe women are also eligible to avail the benefits of various schemes for women implemented by various Central Ministries/ Departments and State Governments. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs gives due priority to schedule tribe women under its income generating activities, skills and vocation training, education programmes. Due representation of women in various Committees of the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Forests Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 have also been provided for. In order to empower scheduled tribe women, National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) launched the Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana. Under the scheme, financial assistance upto 90 per cent for projects costing Rs.1 lakh has been provided at concessional rate of interest of 4 per cent per annum. In addition, scheduled tribe women are also eligible to seek financial assistance under the Term Loan, Micro Credit and Adivasi Shiksha Rrinn Yojana of NSTFDC.
