

Loan scheme for the poor a big draw

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Over 1,500 people have thus far taken loan forms for the Dilli Swarajgar Scheme under which need based loans of up to Rs.5 lakh at 6 per cent per annum simple rate of interest are being offered to people belonging to the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes/ Other Backward Classes or Minorities for starting any permissible non-polluting income generating activity, Delhi Minister Raj Kumar Chauhan has said.

Speaking at the launch of an awareness camp and loan mela organised by Delhi SC/ST/OBC/Minorities/Handicapped Financial and Development Corporation (DSFDC) at MCD Community Centre, Mangolpuri, over the weekend to promote the scheme, Mr. Chauhan said it would help the targeted group set up permissible non-polluting income generating activity

in residential or commercial or industrial or mixed land use areas. He said it was open to all families living in Delhi for the last five years and whose annual family income does not exceed Rs.2 lakh.

The Minister also announced that the application form for this loan scheme would be provided free of cost and the form cost of Rs.100 would be withdrawn shortly.

To support the targeted group, the Minister said a subsidy would be provided by the Delhi Government of 50 per cent of the loan or Rs.10,000 (whichever is less) to those availing of the scheme.

Further, he said, the equated monthly instalments shall start after a moratorium of six months. The Delhi SC/ST/OBC/Minorities/ Handicapped Financial and Development Corporation has proposed to provide loan to at least 1,000 people during the current financial year.