

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	Punjab	343	426	293	11.306	9.624	6.459
20.	Rajasthan	2328	3054	4554	64.738	83.753	58.107
21.	Sikkim	70	66	158	3.720	3.720	5.711
22.	Tamil Nadu	3751	3808	2954	30.908	27.771	33.732
23.	Tripura	215	610	1031	3.944	7.662	10.198
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6047	11283	19946	69.652	74.060	83.215
25.	West Bengal	1750	5372	6490	22.344	37.817	34.953
26.	A and N Islands	19	20	27	0.000	0.000	0.000
27.	D and N Haveli	0	112	50	0.000	0.000	-
28.	Daman and Diu	2	11	11	1.093	0.000	-
29.	Delhi	0	0	0	0.117	0.000	-
30.	Lakshadweep	4	2	4	0.350	0.006	0.100
31.	Pondicherry	21	28	28	0.260	0.190	0.358
32.	Chandigarh	-	-	-	0.000	0.000	-
Total		41488	70934	93223	543.960	665.121	607.910

MPLADS

2272. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the Guidelines issued by the Government regarding the implementation of the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) whether any assessment has been made regarding the implementation of the scheme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is to be implemented as per the guidelines on the Scheme, copies of which have already been circulated to all Members of Parliament.

(b) and (c). The implementation of the Scheme is monitored on a continuous basis. Details regarding the implementation of the Scheme are received periodically from the District Collectors and the trends emerging therefrom are analysed and appropriate action is taken. The Scheme has no physical and financial targets as such.

As per the information received from the majority of the Collectors, expenditure to the extent of Rs. 775.9 crore has been incurred against the allocation of Rs. 1572.80 crores since the inception of the Scheme.

A number of factors, such as elections, late release of funds and the revision of guidelines, the initial unfamiliarity of the District administration with the

Scheme have contributed to the slow pace of expenditure. However, durable assets meeting the felt-needs of the community have been created in different parts of the country.

Solar Plates

2273. SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government would consider to utilise the abundant source of power i.e. solar energy available in this country and encourage industries to manufacture solar plates for cheaper installation at homes and in offices for providing better alternative to short supply of power;

(b) if so, when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). The Government is encouraging utilisation of solar energy through socially oriented and market oriented schemes covering solar photovoltaic and solar thermal energy products all over the country. An aggregate area of about 3.5 lakh sq. meters of solar collectors have been installed so far in the country for thermal applications such as water heating, drying and desalination. In addition, 4.10 lakhs solar cookers have been provided to users. Solar photovoltaic systems with an aggregate capacity of over 6 MW have been installed for applications such as lighting, water pumping and village power.

A number of fiscal and other incentives are available for the manufacture and use of solar energy devices.

Among these are 100% depreciation for income tax purposes, exemption from excise duty, concessional rates of custom duties and soft loans for users. Subsidy is also provided on solar lanterns, domestic lighting units, water pumping systems, solar stills and solar dryers.

(c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies

2274. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY :
SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide reservation to the backward classes in the allotment of LPG agencies and petrol-diesel retail outlets;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):
(a) to (c). The existing policy reservation for different sections of the society as under :

Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes (SC/ST)	-	25%
Physically Handicapped (PH)	-	7 1/2%
Defence (DC)	-	7 1/2%
Freedom Fighters (FF)	-	3%
Outstanding Sportspersons (OSP)	-	2%
Open (O)	-	55%

There is no reservation exclusively for backward classes. They are availing of the opportunities under the existing categories.

[English]

Million Well Scheme

2275. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells constructed in the country particularly in Gujarat during the last three years under the Million Well Scheme, year-wise; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to boost the programme particularly in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The number of wells constructed under Million Wells Scheme during

the last three years are as under :

Year	Wells constructed All India (Including Gujarat)	Gujarat
1993-94	151673	5609
1994-95	158780	6407
1995-96	142462	4107

In addition 160453 wells all over India and 6299 wells in Gujarat are under construction.

(b) The Million Wells Scheme which was a sub-scheme of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is now being implemented as an independent scheme w.e.f. 1.1.1996. The progress is being closely monitored and follow up action taken, where necessary for effective implementation of the Scheme.

[Translation]

Dhaulti Ganga Power Projects

2276. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the NHPC has acquired the agriculture land of local rural people for Dhaulti Ganga Power Project in District Pithoragarh of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether there is a provision to employ these people whose land has been acquired for the purpose;

(c) if so, the number of such people has been appointed so far;

(d) whether compensation has been paid to the farmers whose land has been acquired; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (e). For construction of Dhaultiganga Hydro-electric Project in District Pithoragarh of Uttar Pradesh, the total land requirement is 177.653 ha., out of which 24.57 ha. is agricultural land. The National Hydro-electric Power Corporation has requested the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to initiate the process of land acquisition and a compensation package including employment of persons whose land is acquired and cash compensation for the land shall be decided in consultation with the State Government.

[English]

Employment

2277. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have since formulated