

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, July 16, 1992, Asadha 25, 1914
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Identification of Small and Medium Towns

No. 123. SHRI RAM LAKHAN
SINGH YADAV:SHRI
SRIKANTA JENA:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether small and medium towns have been identified under the integrated development schemes in Bihar, Orissa, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh during 1991-92 and 1992-93;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the amount allocated for the purpose during 1992-93 and the Eighth Plan, State-wise?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

Towns under the scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns for Central assistance are identified by the concerned State Government and Projects Proposals submitted to Central Government for approval. On the basis of priority indicated by the State and in accordance with availability of funds towns are selected and funds released to the State Governments under the Scheme. The towns covered under the Scheme in the States of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar during 1991-92 are indicated below:-

S. No.	Karnataka	Madhya Pradesh	Orissa	Bihar
1.	Chintamani	Datia	Bhadrak	Banka
2.	Chikmaglor	Khargone	Sundergarh	
3.	Dhandelli	Raigarh	Jagatsinghpur	
4.	Mallavalli	Shivpuri		
5.	Rabkavi Banavatti			

Lists of priority towns for the year 1992-93 have been received from Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Karnataka. However, no list has been submitted by the Government of Bihar. On the basis of scheme included in eighth Five Year Plan which was approved on 22/23rd May, 1992 by NDC, the guidelines for the Scheme of IDSMT are under revision in consultation with State Governments and UTs. The selection of priority towns for 1992-93 and allocation to be made would be dependent upon the detailed project reports received from the State Governments on the basis of revised guidelines.

During the Eighth Five Year Plan, a provision of Rs. 145 crores has been included as Central assistance to States/UTs under the IDSMT Scheme. This includes Rs. 13 crores for the year 1992-93. State-wise allocation will depend on the number of small and medium towns identified and project proposals submitted by the States/UTs. Under the Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns five towns have been covered in Karnataka, four in Madhya Pradesh, three in Orissa and one in Bihar. Perhaps you would like to know why this variation in different towns of selection. The State has to send the list of priority towns. For 1991-92 Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa have sent their lists; but no list has come from Bihar. So in Bihar we have able to select only one town of Banka. But in other States like Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh five and four towns have been identified respectively. Only in Orissa one town was chosen but we selected more towns because they sent us the complete project information. so we gave them three towns inside of one. While they had listed for one, we gave them three. We had more for Bihar but we had to give only for one because no project report was received.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know as to what is the criterion for selection in case no list is submitted by the State as it has been stated in the answer that Bihar has not sent its list for inclusion in the Eighth Five Year

Plan? In such a state of inefficiency, what steps would be taken by Central Government? Will the Central Government take any measures on its own ensuring that the case of Bihar is not neglected. I want to mention a case of the town where the mutiny of 1957 had started; Babu Kanwar Singh had launched it and after that the British rulers destroyed the entire town. The State of that town is the same today as it was at that time. There is scarcity of water and other such essential commodities. Will the Government sanction any amount for such places to will take any step on its own or not?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the selection of these towns is done on the suggestion of the State as the State has to meet some part of the expenditure. If the hon. Member wants any name of the town put in the priority list, he ask the State Government to submit the list. These are the set norms and it would facilitate us and his town would also develop.

SHRI RAM LAKHAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Banka town was included in the Sixth Five Year Plan and now proposals from all the States have been received for the Eighth Five Year Plan. The Eighth Five Year Plan is in the process of being approved and in that case Bihar will be neglected. Will the Central Government make any recommendation to Bihar Government to send its list?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: We have adequate funds. If the hon. Member asks the State Government to send the name of any town he likes, we would take up that town.

SHRI RAM LAKHAN YADAV: I am not talking about any particular town. I am talking about the list.

* SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have already covered Aara for which he is making a demand.

[English]

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: Mr. Speaker,

Sir, the hon. Minister has said in her reply that the guidelines for the Scheme of ADSMT are under revision. In the last NDC meeting, it was decided that the guidelines will be revised. But, the revised guidelines have not yet been given. In view of this, if the State Governments submit the proposals to the Central Government, how is the Central Government going to finalise this? Guidelines are to be finalised by the Central Government in consultation with the State Governments and the Union Territories. May I know from the hon. Minister as to when these guidelines will be finalised so that the States will be enabled to send their revised list and the Central Government can finalise it for 1992-93? The allocation is still pending and they have not yet given it to the States.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: The revised guidelines about which the hon. Member has asked have been circulated isolated to all the States. I may inform what are they.

[English]

The States will prepare the urban strategy for the next ten years and give comprehensive reasons for selecting a particular town for integrated development of small and medium town assistance.

Preference is to be given to smaller towns.

Institutional finance is being encouraged to enable larger funding for the city development. Towns upto a population of three lakhs will be included. Previously it was one lakh and now it is three lakhs.

The items of assistance are enlarged and made more structural.

Like this, there are so many. If you want me to read out, I will read out. Would you like me to read out?

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA: You have already circulated that. But have you fixed any date, by which time the States will give

their opinion so that you will be in a position to finalise the guidelines and it will enable the Government of India to send the money to the different States?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: We have not fixed any particular date like that. But, it is expected that since they are interested in this, they will send as soon as they can.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: Why the small and medium towns of Maharashtra have not been included under this Scheme? May I know whether the State Government has not sent or in spite of their sending, it has not been included?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: Actually this question pertains only to four States, namely, Karnataka, Orissa, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh. If you want to know the details about the State of Maharashtra, you can always put a question.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: We understand that under this Scheme the development works like providing drinking water facilities and also underground drainages system are being assisted, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government of Karnataka has submitted a new list for the year 1992-93 and whether the towns of Udipi and Doddabellapura are included in the list for 1992-93. Further, as we see from the answer, only Rs. 13 crores are allocated for the entire country for the year 1992-93. Out of this amount, how much would be allotted to Karnataka? Would the proposal made by Karnataka be accepted *in toto*?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: The hon. Member has asked about Karnataka. For Karnataka, the towns are Tiptur and K.R. Nagar.

SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR: For 1992-93, has a list been submitted by Karnataka and whether Udupi and Doddabella are included in that list?

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: No. these are not included.

SHRI DHANANJAYA KUMAR: How much money has been allocated to Karnataka out of Rs. 13 crore earmarked for 1992-93? For the entire country, you have allocated only Rs. 13 crore.

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking too many questions in one.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: An expenditure of Rs. 550 lakh has been incurred including the States share. That means, we have been trying to give as much money and assistance as possible to Karnataka. No earmarking is done. It depends on the project reports that we receive about different towns. That are sent to us by the State Government.

[Translation]

SHRI BRISHIN PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is true that the list which has to be submitted by Bihar has not still been received and I think there may be several States which might be having their own problems or due to which or due to some other reasons, they might not be in a position to submit the list. I would like to know from the Government whether Government intends to allocate some fund for each state as financial assistance is provided to each state in case of natural calamities?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: She has already replied to this question.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down now.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, the hon. Minister has categorically stated that in 1991-92, from Karnataka Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, and Bihar schemes have been submitted by the State Government for sanction of the Central Government.

I want to know whether Government has decided or selected any town from Orissa so far. Proposals for three towns have been

submitted. Has any town been selected? If the town has been selected, what is the amount sanctioned by the Central Government?

And what is the assistance to be borne by the State Government? I want to know categorically.

Further.....

MR. SPEAKER: No, no; you can ask only one question. Please sit down now.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: Sir, in Orissa right from inception, 23 towns have been covered. Rs. 711 lakh have been released from the beginning of the scheme. But this time in 1991-92, one town was to be covered on the basis of its population. There are certain norms that are laid down. The norms should be that the population of the small town should be of one lakh. But now we have the revised guideline that would take us to three lakh. But so far, we have selecting towns that have a population of one lakh each. But since more projects and more clarifications have been given by Orissa, instead of one town, we have selected three towns.

Tribals in Assam

*124. SHRI PROBEN DEKA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of tribals in Assam who are above poverty line vis-a-vis total population of the State;

(b) the steps taken by the Union Government to improve the living standard of tribals in Assam; and

(c) the steps taken so far to preserve tribal languages and culture in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRIMATI K. KAMALA KUMARI): (a) The position as per the Report of the working Group on Development and Welfare of Scheduled Tribes during the 8th Five year Plan, is as follows: