

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: My question is that whether would you take any action against those officers?...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not disturb.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Shailendra Kumar, what is this?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let the hon. Minister reply and do not disturb.

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: In special cases, like Maharashtra, where we have seen discrepancies, we have asked for action to be taken against specific officials.

In other cases, we have written to the Chief Minister asking them to take action and to speed up the process. Now all the Schemes are prepared by the State Corporation. We are constantly in touch with them all the time.

DR. ASIM BALA: Sir, this is a very important and serious question so far as social system is concerned...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Sir, all the hon'ble members are serious therefore, half an hour discussion may be made on this issue.

[English]

DR. ASIM BALA: I want to ask a specific question. Is the Government going to set up a Committee to look into the matter regarding the lapses that are there?

Secondly, is the Government going to take some action against those officials who are answerable to the State if lapses are found on their part? What action has the concerned State Government itself taken? What procedure do they adopt to speed up the project?

I would also like to know from the Minister about the diversion of Budget. It is passed by the Parliament. Which

is the authority that diverts those funds to other sectors or other projects?

MR. SPEAKER: Madam Minister, would you like to reply?

SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI: Sir, the question is not of diverting the funds. The question is that we have revised the scheme to make it more broad based. As I said, the amount this year is Rs. 20 crore. ...*(Interruptions)* The question that you asked me again is: What action has been taken against the officials? Now, the Maximum action that I can take at this point is that we have constantly sent our teams to them.

DR. ASIM BALA: No, Madam, I can explain it again.

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Asim Bala, this is not good.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : No, no, please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ramdas Athawale, please take your seat.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)\**

#### **Integrated Rural Development Programme**

\*185 SHRI VITHAL TUPE:  
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages benefited under Integrated Rural Development Programme in the country with State-wise break-up;

(b) whether the achievements of the programmes have been satisfactory;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the measures being taken by the Government for the implementation of the programmes; and

(d) the funds provided to Maharashtra and Karnataka for the said programmes during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) The Integrated Rural Development Programme is being implemented in all the villages of the country, State-wise specific number of villages actually covered is not monitored.

(b) and (c) The achievement of the programme has by and large been satisfactory. There has been a significant increase in per family investment in the past few years as well as in the credit mobilisation and subsidy credit ratio. The programme is constantly reviewed through concurrent evaluation as well as in various committees. Based on these, several initiatives have been taken to improve the implementation of the programme such as emphasis on higher level of per family investment, abolition of fixation of physical targets and emphasis on credit mobilisation, extension of Family Credit Plan, encouragement to group activities, enhancement of limit for collateral free loans, extension of Cash disbursement scheme and implementation of back-end subsidy system.

(d) Central share of funds released to Government of Maharashtra and Karnataka during the last three years are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Maharashtra	Karnataka
1995-96	3991.26	2883.11
1996-97	4717.02	2285.61
1997-98	4566.80	2542.08

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE (Pune): How much percent of the fund allocated by the Union Government to the Maharashtra Government was utilised in the last three years 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98.

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, for Maharashtra, during 1995-96, Rs. 3996 lakh was released, during 1996-97, Rs. 4717 lakh was released, and during 1997-98, Rs. 4566 lakh was released. So, the focus is on quality, not on amount.

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE: You are not stating the percentage, but at least state the amount of expenditure incurred by the Maharashtra Government in the last three years?

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Sir, he is looking at the main answer. The supplementary is different.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: During 1996-97, families assisted in Maharashtra were 1,61,018, subsidy component was Rs. 94 crore, and credit component was Rs. 174 crore.

SHRI A.C. JOS: The Minister is not answering his question.

[Translation]

SHRI VITHAL TUPE: I have asked you a specific question that the amount allocated by the Union Government has not been fully spent in Maharashtra, please tell us about that.

[English]

SHRI AJIT JOGI: Sir, please protect the Member. He is asking something and the Minister is answering some other thing.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member has a specific question, and the hon. Minister is giving a specific reply.

SHRI AJIT JOGI: No. Sir, kindly protect the hon. Member. He is asking a supplementary.

MR. SPEAKER: I am protecting you also.

SHRI A.C. JOS: He asked how much money had been allotted, and how much money had been spent. The hon. Minister's answer is different.

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seat.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, I am answering his question. The money released during 1996-97 for

Maharashtra on subsidy component was Rs. 94 crore; in 1997-98, the money released on subsidy component was Rs. 93 crore, and the credit component was Rs. 188 crore; and in 1998-99, the money released on subsidy component was Rs. 63 crore, and the money released on credit on component was Rs. 124 crore.

*[Translation]*

SHRI VITHAL TUPE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the amount allocated in the entire country is not fully utilised. Rs. 1133.51 crore were allocated in the year 1997 and Rs. 1086.59 crore were spent, Rs. 47 crore were not spent. What action is taken by the Government against the States who do not utilise the amount after allocation.

*[English]*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, as the hon. Member knows very well that the bankers are reluctant to give credit to the beneficiaries. We have, recently, constituted a Committee to suggest measures for its remedy.

SHRI C. GOPAL: Hon. Speaker, the IRDP Scheme is being adopted particularly in the States through Block Development Officers. Last time the hon. Minister said that for this scheme a Committee will be formed and these committees will be headed by Members of Parliament. I would like to know from the hon. Minister that for adopting the scheme through the Block Development Officer whether any committee will be formed or whether the Government will come forward to form a committee headed by Members of Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Gopal. this has already been answered.

SHRI C. GOPAL : No Sir...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, barring 40 districts, all districts have constituted committees recently. I have received letters in this regard from all the States...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. GOPAL: Sir, MPs are disrespected, particularly in Tamil Nadu. That is why I am asking for a committee headed by Members of Parliament.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, I have received letters from the State Governments...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. GOPAL: And they have answered that so far there is no committee. Members of Parliament are

being insulted by the Government of Tamil Nadu ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Minister, please address the Chair.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, out of 516 districts, barring 40 districts, all the DRDOs have constituted a monitoring committee involving the hon. Members...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI C. GOPAL: What about the Member of Parliament?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, the Committee involves Members of Parliament and Members of State Legislatures.

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK (Raichor). Sir, the Government is implementing the IRDP Scheme to uplift the poorest people of the country, whose annual income is Rs. 11,000. Since 1980 onwards, the Government has spent about Rs. 11,000 crore as subsidy on the implementation of the Scheme. But the position of the beneficiaries is the same as it was before 1980 because most of the funds are taken away by the middlemen.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he has made any survey for proper disbursement of Central funds; and secondly, whether the Government is considering to make any changes in the guidelines for its implementation.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, the Government periodically evaluates, monitors the schemes and takes action against the misuse of funds.

As regard the second part of the question of the hon. Member, we are going to restructure the programmes because some people are getting credit but they are not getting the training and there is no market linkage between the programmes also. So, to facilitate the self-employment programme and to give more flexibility to the implementing authority we are restructuring the programme.

*[Translation]*

SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI: Sir, the original question was that what is the number of villages benefitted under the Integrated Rural Development Programme in the country alongwith State-wise breakup. Hon. Minister has not stated the State-wise number thereof rather he has only stated the amount of contribution given by the Centre to Maharashtra and Karnataka. I would like to

know from the Hon. Minister the position in Madhya Pradesh in this regard, how much contribution it has received from the Centre and how much amount has been utilised? The problem is that these schemes are sponsored by the Union Government and the State Governments are accountable for utilization of funds which they are not utilizing. The funds released for an item are diverted elsewhere. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister how much amount was allocated to Andhra Pradesh under this head and how much was spent?

*[English]*

MR. SPEAKER: His supplementary is with regard to Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, his supplementary is with regard to Madhya Pradesh. So, I need a separate notice for this.

DR. RAVI MALLU: Sir, in the implementation of the IRDP, continuously the Administration is only concentrating on the distribution of the IRDP funds to beneficiaries. The so-called committees, which are formed at the district level, where the MPs and the MLAs are also the members, are only seeing how the money is distributed but there is no Committee to see whether the distributed money is properly implemented, grounded, utilised by the beneficiaries. That is the reason why, since 1980 the IRDP schemes implemented in all the States are not giving good results.

I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal or scheme to form a Committee to see the money distributed will be properly utilised by the beneficiaries.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, I understand the feelings of the hon. Member. We are constituting Committees. Already the State Governments have written to us that they have constituted the Committees involving the MPs and the MLAs. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. RAVI MALLU: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I explained everything. There are Committees for distribution of the IRDP money only. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Ravi Mallu, about the Committees only, he is explaining. Please take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: We have asked all the State Governments. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, I am always asking you to address the Chair, not to the Member. This is the problem.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: All the State Governments have answered. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Sir, this is a serious matter. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Ravi Mallu, please take your seat. You have asked your supplementary, Why are you standing now? The hon. Minister is here to reply to your question.

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: They have written to us that they have constituted Committees involving the MPs and the MLAs. *...(Interruptions)*

DR. RAVI MALLU: Sir, my question is not answered. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Committees are going to be constituted and the MPs are the members.

Shri T. R. Baalu.

SHRI T. R. BAALU: Sir, during the recent visit to my constituency, I could see the rural poor people and also poor farmers who were visibly weeping and crying in front of me for non-compliance of their loan applications in time by the banks. Sir, the Block Development Officials and the Panchayat Officers sort out and recommend their applications; they are sending the application to the banks but the banks are not coming forward to extend the loan facilities in time. What is the reaction of the Government to this?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: That is the general complaint, So, we have recently constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Jayant Madhav for the North East Region to suggest remedies for this.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Maheshwar Singh.

*...(Interruptions)*

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, in spite of these Committees of the State Government, they are not coming forward. What are you going to do? What is the mechanism that you have for this?...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Sir, as per the policy of the Government today most of the developmental works in the rural areas in the country are being carried out by the Department of Rural Development and the Panchayats but on the Department of Rural Development level.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri T.R. Baalu, please take your seat.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the State Government is giving the subsidy. So, he should reply. I want a categorical reply from the Minister as to what he is going to do. Sir, the rural poor people and poor farmers are crying. What is the use of implementing the IRDP?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: Sir, after receiving the report from the Committee, we would take action.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Sir, I was saying that most of the developmental works in the rural areas are being carried out through the Department of Rural Development and Panchayats following the present policy of the Government but due to shortage of technical staff and supervisory staff with the Department of Rural Development these schemes are not implemented in time, whether it is Jawahar Rojgar Yojana or any other Scheme of the Department of Rural Development.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: What is your supplementary? There is no time. Please put your supplementary.

[Translation]

SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Besides, there are other schemes like Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme. I would like to know from the hon.

Minister, through you that what steps are being taken by the Government to provide adequate staff to the Deptt. of Development so that all the Schemes of the Government are implemented in time?

[English]

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL: There is a separate programme for that. For skill upgradation, we are having a programme called, 'TRYSEM'. They are giving training to the IRDP beneficiaries.

#### Contracts with Foreign Universities

186. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of educational organisations have signed contracts with foreign universities in their own way during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, organisation-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any check/control of their activities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (e) The phenomenon of the operation of the foreign universities is comparatively of recent origin. The specific details in this respect are not available with the Government. The Government however cognisant of this phenomenon *inter-alia* set up a Task Force to look into the aspects of the University regulation to cope with such emerging situation. The Task Force has since submitted its recommendation for examination by the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL (Ahmednagar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to know from the Minister as to what are the main recommendations of the task force constituted by him. This matter is under discussion for the last three years. Recently Delhi University also has signed an agreement with Sophia University of Japan and even some private institutions