

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1412
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2000
FUNDS ALLOCATED UNDER EAS
NAGMANI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) The details of funds allocated under the Employment Assurance Scheme during each of the last three years and as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether any review of this scheme has been conducted; and
- (c) if so, the achievements made thereunder, State-wise ?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA)

(a): Employment Assurance Scheme was implemented in all the States/Union Territories except Delhi and Chandigarh. Till 31.3.1999, the Employment Assurance Scheme was demand driven in nature and therefore no specific allocation was made for the States/UTs. The scheme has become allocation-based w.e.f.1.4.1999. A Statement showing releases made during 1997-98 & 1998-99 and funds allocated during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is enclosed at Annexure I.

(b): Based on the experience of last five years of implementation of the scheme, the Government of India set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Prof.S.R.Hashim, Member, Planning Commission, to review and restructure the Employment Assurance Scheme. On the recommendation of this Committee, the scheme has been restructured with effect from 1.4.1999. The revised Guidelines were issued. Some of the important features of the revised EAS are as under:-

(1) The Employment Assurance Scheme will be the single wage employment programme. It will continue to be implemented universally in all the rural Panchayat Samitis of the country.

(2) The Central assistance are allocated to the States/Union Territories on the basis of proportion of rural poor in a State to the total rural poor in the country. From out of the State allocation, funds to the Districts are provided based on an index of backwardness. Two indicators are used for working out the index of backwardness, namely, the proportion of SC/ST population of the District and the inverse of agricultural production per agricultural worker. Equal weightage is given to both these indicators.

(3) 70% of the funds allotted for each district are allocated to the Panchayat Samities 30% of the funds are reserved at the district level and shall be utilised in the areas suffering from endemic labour exodus/areas of distress.

(4) Zilla Parishads would be implementing authority for the funds released to both Zilla Parishads and Panchayat Samities. Zilla Parishads would have the overall responsibility for preparation of Annual Action Plan and its approval.

(c): Statements indicating State-wise financial and physical achievements under the EAS during 1999-2000 are at Annexure II & III.