

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3096
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000
DEVELOPMENT OF HILLY AREAS
JARBOM GAMLIN

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some projects for development of hilly areas of North-Eastern Region particularly in the State of Arunachal Pradesh have been undertaken under the scheme for Special Central Financial Assistance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

(SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) to (c) : Although there is no specific head titled `Special Central Financial Assistance` under which schemes are being undertaken in the hilly areas of the north eastern region, including Arunachal Pradesh, the following policy initiatives have been taken to augment the resource base of these States :

- (i) 30% of Normal Central Assistance is ear-marked for Special Category States which include N.E. States.
- (ii) 90% of Plan assistance is grant and 10% loan as against 30% grant and 70% loan for other States.
- (iii) State contribution of 15%, which is mandatory for the Basic Minimum Services schemes, is not applicable to N.E. States.
- (iv) 10% of Plan provision of the Central Ministries / Deptts. has been earmarked for development of N.E. States.
- (v) Over and above the State Plan outlays which have been increasing over the years, funds are also being sanctioned out of the Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources created through transfer of unspent balance of the earmarked outlays of the Central Ministries and Departments meant for development of the N.E. States.
- (vi) The North Eastern Council is also engaged in the development of infrastructure in the region.
- (vii) Special dispensation has been made in respect of the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP) by incorporating minor irrigation projects for the North-Eastern States and allowing 25% of the State's share, as against 33% for others, in availing of Central Loan Assistance.
- (viii) Diversion to the extent of 20% of the Normal Central Assistance (Plan) is allowed for Non-Plan purposes.
- (ix) Special Central Assistance is allocated for addressing the special problems of the border areas under the Border Area Development Programme (BADP).

In the specific case of Arunachal Pradesh, Rs. 13 crore have been allocated as Special Central Assistance under the Border Area Development Programme in the current year. Further in addition to the initiatives mentioned above, Additional Central Assistance of Rs. 1.245 crore has been allocated for

- (a) preparation of detailed project reports for Externally Aided Projects and
- (b) maintenance of foot tracks and suspension bridges.