

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4063  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000  
HIGH POWERED DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
DHANI RAM SHANDIL

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government propose to set up a High Powered Development Board for meeting adequate infrastructure and speedy development of Himachal Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the steps taken in this regard ?

**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 GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS

(SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Planning Commission supplements the efforts of the State Governments for development of various sectors including infrastructure through the formula used for the distribution of Normal Central Assistance under which Himachal Pradesh is treated as a Special Category State. Special category States derive two direct advantages from the formula used for distribution of central assistance: (a) after setting apart funds required for externally aided projects and reasonable amounts for Special Area Programmes, 30% of the balance is provided to these States even though their share of population is much lower; and (b) central assistance is provided to these States on liberal basis in terms of grant and loan composition i.e. the ratio of grant to loan is 90:10 while the ratio in the case of non special category States is 30:70. Further, the States' contribution of 15% which is mandatory for the Basic Minimum Schemes is not applicable to the Special Category States.

In addition, Special Central Assistance is allocated to Himachal Pradesh under Special Area Programmes, namely the Border Area Development Programme and the Tribal sub-plan.