

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4094  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2000  
APPRAISAL OF PERFORMANCE  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR;Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

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

- (a) whether the Government have reviewed the performance of ongoing Economic Reforms Programme in the various States;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the States lagging behind in implementing the Reforms; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government for achieving the targets under the Economic Reforms Programme?

**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) (b) (c) & (d): No Sir. While economic policies and programmes are under constant review, Government of India have not reviewed the performance of ongoing economic reforms programme in individual States as such. States are free to pursue economic reforms programmes depending on their specific requirements, within their constitutional jurisdictions. The question of Government of India taking steps to achieve any targets set by State Governments thus does not arise.

However, following an initiative of the National Development Council in its meeting of 19-2-1999, Govt. of India has been supporting specific fiscal reforms by certain States in order to help them overcome their financial difficulties. The main objective of Fiscal Reforms for States is to reduce the revenue deficit in the medium term. To date, thirteen States have entered into an agreement with the Centre on State-specific Fiscal Reforms. These are Punjab, Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Manipur, Nagaland, Mizoram, Orissa, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Andhra Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.

The progress of these specific State level fiscal reforms is periodically reviewed by an official Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Planning Commission. The Committee monitors the State-specific fiscal reforms programmes and considers a package of financial assistance in the form of extended Ways and Means (W&M) accommodation, advance tax devolution and the advance release of Plan assistance to assist States overcome temporary financial difficulties.