

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3039  
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2002  
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK LOAN  
ANANDRAO ADSUL;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

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

- (a) whether India has asked Asian Development Bank to make a quantum jump in its lending for developmental and infrastructure projects to make a real dent on poverty in the developing countries;
- (b) if so, whether it has been pointed out that present small gross assistance from the bank is too meagre to make any tangible change on poverty eradication; and
- (c) if so, the extent to which Asian Development Bank has considered the views of the Indian Government in this regard ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANT G. GEETE)

- (a) & (b) While delivering the Statement in his capacity as Governor for India in the Board of Governors of ADB at the 35th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors in Shanghai in May 2002, Finance Minister observed the following: `We need to look beyond the current lending levels at which we are operating, and prepare for a quantum leap. Can we hope to make any real dent in poverty when the gross assistance is so small?
- (c) As far as India is concerned, the ADB Programming Mission which visited India in May 2002 has developed a pipeline of Projects for calendar years 2003 to 2005. The pipeline includes 28 loans in different sectors in the country, such as road, power, railways, etc. for a total loan amount of about \$ 6 billion. This is in line with the strategy of achieving poverty reduction through growth.