

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2318
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2002
POVERTY ALLEVIATION PROGRAMMES
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have assessed the various poverty alleviation programmes implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have noticed any shortcomings in poverty alleviation programmes;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to rectify these shortcomings in the Tenth Five Year Plan ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The Planning Commission conducted a mid term appraisal of the Poverty Alleviation Programmes implemented during the Ninth Five Year Plan. This mid term appraisal suggested that the projections on reduction of proportion and number of people Below Poverty Line (BPL) in the Ninth Plan have not been realized in the first two years of the Plan period.
- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The main shortcomings are benefits derived by non-eligible beneficiaries in some cases, delay in completion of the projects, inadequate involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the implementation process and non-compliance of guidelines of the Programmes, in some cases.
- (e) The Ministry of Rural Development have been impressing upon the States and Union Territories to implement the Schemes more effectively and in accordance with the guidelines. In order to improve the implementation of the Schemes and to ensure better delivery of benefits to the poor, a four-pronged strategy consisting of
 - (i) creation of awareness about the Schemes,
 - (ii) transparency,
 - (iii) people's partnership and
 - (iv) accountability - social audit through Gram Sabhas has been evolved.