

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1114
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2000
CRITERIA FOR ALLOCATION OF FUND
SANJAY PASWAN

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has received any demand from the State Governments regarding the modification of criteria for allocation of Central Fund for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have accepted demand of the States and proposed to set up a Task Force in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the said Task Force is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS. (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) to (e): The Planning Commission has received representations from some States regarding modification of the criterion for allocation of funds under major rural poverty alleviation programmes. While some States have advocated that allocation of funds be based on the Task Force estimates for 1987-88 (Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh), others are in favour of adopting the Expert Group estimates of poverty for 1993-94 (Punjab, Kerala and Tripura). This issue was placed before the National Development Council (NDC). In pursuance of the decision taken in the meeting of the NDC held on 19.2.99, it was decided to set up a Committee of the National Development Council under the chairmanship of the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission with Members from both the Central Ministries and the State Governments to determine the criterion for allocation of funds under major rural poverty alleviation programmes. The NDC Committee after discussing various criteria for allocation of funds under major rural poverty alleviation programmes recommended the continuation of existing criterion. The Committee also recommended that many important suggestions which relate to incentives for better performance in reducing poverty and additional funds for areas with extreme poverty and distress could be taken up when the work starts on the Tenth Plan. The recommendations of the NDC Committee would be presented for approval to the National Development Council.