

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3531
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2003
SELF HELP GROUPS
RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the scheme formulated by the Government to provide productive employment to the people by forming self help groups (SHGs) in the country especially in Bihar;
- (b) the targets fixed for the scheme during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (c) the achievements of the scheme and reasons for shortfall in the targets;
- (d) whether the Government have taken steps to create awareness about the schemes and their implementation; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U.V.KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a) The Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana(SGSY), a holistic programme of self-employment covering all aspects of self employment viz organisation of the rural poor into Self Help Groups(SHGs) and their capacity building, Planning of activity clusters, infrastructure build up, technology and marketing support, was launched on 1st April, 1999. Since inception of the scheme 15,09,159 Self Help Groups (SHGs) have been formed all over the country including Bihar.Out of this 1,23,409 number of SHGs have taken up economic activities for self employment under the programme.

(b)&(c) No physical targets are set under the scheme. Statements indicating physical achievement State-wise including Bihar, during the last three years and current financial year are annexed.

(d)&(e) To increase awareness about the programmes of the Ministry including SGSY, electronic media i.e. Television and All India Radio are being used. At present a fifteen minute programme namely `Grameen Bharat` is being telecast five times a week through local Doordarshan Kendras in 11 languages throughout the country. Twelve weekly programmes are also being broadcast through All India Radio. The Ministry is also publishing a news magazine namely Grameen Bharat in 13 languages in which success stories/best practices are published and circulated to all the Gram Panchayats in the country.