

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2220

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2003

REFORM AGENDA FOR MINISTRIES

CHANDRA NATH SINGH;GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;NIVEDITA MANE;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government proposes to bring about reform in the working of the Central Ministries;

(b) If so, the Ministry-wise details of the blueprint submitted to the Planning Commission along with the Ministries / Departments which have not submitted their action plan to the Planning Commission; and

(c) The steps taken by the Government to implement the reform agenda?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS & PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a) and (b) : In pursuance of the decision taken by the National Development Council at its 50th meeting held on 21-12-2002 that Priority Agenda Action for the year 2003-04 be drawn up taking into account the specific directions contained in the Tenth Five-Year Plan document, the Government identified 163 Priority Agenda Items / Thrust Areas relating to programmes / projects and policy initiatives for implementation in various sectors. Planning Commission has been made the nodal department for the monitoring of 116 Priority Agenda Items / Thrust Areas, the details of which are given in the enclosed statement. Most of the Ministries / Departments have submitted their action plans except in case of some agenda items from Ministry(s) / Department(s) of Economic Affairs, Commerce, Consumer Affairs, Culture, Expenditure, Food & Public Distribution, Secondary & Higher Education, Personnel, Posts, Science & Technology, Tourism, Urban Development, Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation, Small Scale Industries and Women & Child Development.

(c) : To ensure timely implementation of the Priority Agenda of Action, 31 items are to be monitored by the Prime Minister and the remaining 132 items to be monitored through Committee of Secretaries. Thrust Areas requiring involvement of multiple agencies and participation of various State Government authorities are expedited through coordination meetings at higher levels. In some Thrust Areas, Group of Ministers monitors to expedite the concurrence and views of the participating agencies.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO REPLY TO PART (a) AND (b) OF LOKSABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2220 DUE REPLY ON 17.12.2003 REGARDING REFORM AGENDA FOR MINISTRIES BY SHRI SADASHIV RAO DADOBA MANDLIK
OTHERS

Sl. Ministry/Department No.	Proposed REform
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1 Administrative Reforms/ Information Technology	Monitor and expedite finalisation and subsequent implementation of National Action Plan on e-governance. Work out and monitor timelines for various proposed actions. Similarly address issues related to setting up of NISG.
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2 Agriculture and Cooperation,	Preparation of a National Action Plan, focusing on Agriculture Research and Education measures to be undertaken, during the next 10 years, towards increasing agricultural productivity and doubling food production by 2010.
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3 Agriculture and Cooperation, Food & PD	Formulate a crop neutral income support scheme to overcome the shortcomings in the MSP, encourage crop diversification and cost efficient agricultural production. Also prepare policy to encourage decentralized procurement including private trade participation.
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4 Atomic Energy	Formulation of a National Agenda on utilisation of
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- nuclear technology for developmental applications.
- 5 Civil Aviation Formulation of a new Civil Aviation Policy to comprehensively address issues related to the Civil Aviation Industry.
 - 6 Development of North-East/MHA Revitalising North-Eastern Council to ensure territorial integrity of the States of the NE. Special developmental, administrative and security related programmes including fencing of remaining portion of Indo Bangladesh border and construction of roads.
 - 7 Environment and Forests Formulate National Environment Policy to harmonise the demands of development and environment.
 - 8 Finance (Economic Affairs) Develop Government's Philosophy on Regulation with necessary sectoral variants to be the underlying basis for Regulatory arrangements across various sectors. Base Paper could be prepared by PMO/DEA.
 - 9 Finance (Economic Affairs) Formulate a National Policy on Subsidies, which would identify target groups, goods & services, subsidy norms, and an exit strategy for existing subsidies which are inconsistent with the policy
 - 10 Human Resource Development Prepare specific Action Plan to provide the legal/institutional mechanism to operationalise the fundamental right to elementary education.
 - 11 IT/Home Devise the content of the proposed machine readable identity card scheme to cater for/enable linkages across sectors/data bases to facilitate use of the number as the underlying cross-linked identification number for all possible governmental intervention
 - 12 Land Resources/Agriculture Finalise policy, institutional arrangements and content related to PM's Jal Samvardhan Yojna and facilitate its implementation.
 - 13 Personnel & Training Civil Service Reforms to improve transparency, accountability, honesty, efficiency and sensitivity in public administration at all levels.
 - 14 Power Formulate a Policy for Rural Electrification that creates an enabling, de-regulated environment for private initiative and encourages the use of Non-Conventional Energy Sources.
 - 15 Power Institutionalize mechanisms for accelerating private/FDI investment including SPVs, BOT, Disinvest & reinvest, etc.
 - 16 Rural Development Develop policy framework for greening of wastelands through people's participation and PPP
 - 17 Rural Development Implementation of PM's announcement at the National Conclave on PRI's held in April 2002 to bring about financial/administrative empowerment of PRI's, which would enable PRI's to, inter alia, raise funds through the market, user charges etc.
 - 18 RD assisted by other Development Ministries An effective system of monitoring be designed and put in place to ensure proper utilisation of development funds at the district and lower levels.
 - 19 Space Formulation of a National Agenda for the utilisation of space technology for developmental applications.
 - 20 Urban Development Ensure finalisation of Model Municipal Law and facilitate necessary followup actions for adoption by States.
 - 21 Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation Finalisation of National Policy on Slums.
 - 22 Water Resources Promotion of participatory irrigation management, rationalisation of water charges and fixing norms for establishment component in O&M.
 - 23 Water Resources Finalization of the Action Plan and Institutional Machinery for the National Programme on inter-linking of rivers
 - 24 Water Resources/Law Enact Central Legislation for control of ground water exploitation and rain water harvesting and encourage States to adopt model bill to regulate/develop ground water resources.
 - 25 Agriculture Formulate and enact model legislations on contract farming, Joint Stock Companies in agriculture based on land equity and lease of waste land for cropping and afforestation.
 - 26 Agriculture FASAL to be made operational; results to be disseminated on Internet.
 - 27 Agriculture (DARE) Action to be completed on GVK Rao Committee Report.
 - 28 Cabinet Secretariat Re-engineer all regulatory processes, both upstream (prior to investment approval) and downstream (during implementation); devise incentive mechanisms for adoption at State/Municipal levels.
 - 29 Chemicals & Petrochemicals Drug prices to be further decontrolled on the basis of a clear set of regulatory principles; institutional mechanism for price regulation.
 - 30 Coal Ensure early enactment of the Coal Mines (Nationalisation) Amendment Bill 2000 to enable private participation in non-captive coal mining. Take suitable supporting steps to ensure fair competition and a level playing field in each segment of coal production.
 - 31 Commerce Implementation of Report of Task Force on Project Exports
 - 32 Commerce Shape content of SEZ and Competitive Economic Zone Policy, including the Central SEZ Act, to enable world class infrastructure through private participation and hassle free regulatory regime in various areas including taxation, customs, labour etc., in SE
 - 33 Commerce Legislate mandatory GMP/HACCP certification for all food

- exports in 2 years. Formulate Plan/MFI - scheme for technical assistance to enable compliance.
- 34 Commerce / Finance To merge existing anti-dumping cell into an autonomous, quasi-judicial international trade commission with a broader mandate related to WTO disciplines (on the lines of US ITC) and equipped with the technical capabilities of the erstwhile BICP, augmented
- 35 Consumer Affairs Make necessary Amendments in Essential Commodities Act to liberalise the statutory framework for storage and movement of goods.
- 36 Consumer Affairs Prepare National Action Plan for Consumer Awareness, Redressal and Enforcement.
- 37 Consumer Affairs Remove all legal restrictions on futures trading in agricultural commodities, but provide an autonomous regulator, if necessary. NOTE: THIS NEEDS TO BE LINKED TO COMPLETION OF ONGOING EFFORTS TO SET UP THE NATIONAL COMMODITIES EXCHANGE/OTHER COMMODITY EXC
- 38 Culture Develop a prudent National Policy on heritage sites. Formulate guidelines and contracting frameworks for, and introduce Public Private Partnerships in development and maintenance of historical/heritage sites/monuments, through enabling statutory changes,
- 39 Culture Formulation of National Cultural Policy
- 40 Disinvestment Evolve a policy of dis-investment for loss making PSUs
- 41 Disinvestment Evolve a final view on constituting an Asset management Company for management and disposal of the residual shares of disinvested companies
- 42 Disinvestment Evolve a final view on setting up of a 'Disinvestment Proceeds Fund' for the Creation of New assets, investment, employment and retirement of public debt.
- 43 Environment & Forests/Cabinet Secretariat CRZ notification to be revisited in the light of SC judgement to enable environmentally sustainable use of coastal resources.
- 44 Environment and Forests Formulate National Environment Policy to harmonise the demands of development and environment.
- 45 Environment and Forests Formulate guidelines and contracting frameworks for, and introduce Public Private Partnerships in development, maintenance and operation of game parks/National Parks.
- 46 Environment and Forests Formulate and implement Policy and Action Plan related to Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), including setting up of a regulatory mechanism.
- 47 Environment and Forests/Cabinet Secretariat Review and Reform the Environmental Clearance system by examining prudent overseas practices, identifying constraints/bottlenecks, incorporating IT and other innovations to address regulatory concerns in a transparent, non-intrusive and predictable manner,
- 48 Fertilizers Monitor implementation of Cabinet decisions on rationalisation of subsidy scheme for urea and concession scheme for decontrolled fertilisers (DAP, MOP and Complexes).
- 49 Fertilizers Formulation of a long term policy for fertilizer sector.
- 50 Finance (Banking) Implementation of Action Plan to facilitate Financial Flows to the Unorganised Sector
- 51 Finance (Banking)/SSI Facilitate credit availability, including collateral free credit to SSIs and achieve higher coverage of SSI/tiny units under Credit Guarantee Trust Fund Scheme. Also, ensure availability of adequate funds for technology upgradation/modernisation, modern tes
- 52 Finance (Company Affairs) Devise and implement various steps to ensure transparency in corporate governance, including implementation of the Naresh Chandra Committee Report, taking into account international best practices and recent developments in various countries.
- 53 Finance (Economic Affairs) Revise policy on FDI, procedures for FDI clearances, strengthen facilitation.
- 54 Finance (Economic Affairs) To devise and implement an institutional mechanism for independent, expert investigations on complaints relating to public sector financial institutions
- 55 Finance (Expenditure) To revise procurement norms to ensure greater transparency, competitions, fairness, and elimination of discretion in procurement of goods & services by Government
- 56 Finance (Expenditure/Cabinet Secretariat) Implementation of the ERC Recommendations and related VRS scheme aimed at reducing wasteful expenditure.
- 57 Finance (Revenue) Process Kelkar Committee Report on Indirect Taxes
- 58 Finance (Revenue) Comprehensive Revision of Customs and Central Excise Code etc. to be accomplished to ensure transparency, overcome absence of direction, elimination of unnecessary stages and mandatory time lines.
- 59 Finance Ministry/Planning Commission Develop standard models of public-private partnerships for different categories of public services FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF PUBLIC PROJECTS/SCHEMES TO MAKE THEM THE DEFAULT OPTION FOR ALL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES IN THE 10TH PLAN.
- 60 Finance/DEA Operationalization of the National Pensions Regime announced in the last Budget
- 61 Finance/DEA Finalization & operationalization of the proposed New Pension Scheme for Government Servants
- 62 Finance/DEA Finalization and implementation of proposed Medical Insurance Scheme for the unorganized sector, including BPL families,

- announced by FM in the last Budget
- 63 Food and Public Distribution Encourage the participation of private traders in the procurement and export of food grains.
 - 64 Food and Public Distribution Consider removal of restrictions on Fair Price Shop (FPS) dealers and commodities to be sold through them. Envisage/promote FPS management by village grain dealers, village self-help groups and NGOs, where they exist.
 - 65 Food and Public Distribution Draw up a detailed blue print for enhancing private participation through PPP and other means in creation of storage capacity and formulate policy for establishment of decentralised grain banks with private participation.
 - 66 Food and Public Distribution Introduce steps to reform FCI functioning, including steps to outsource various operations and reduce/redeploy manpower in a phased manner, to ensure more efficient and cost effective operations.
 - 67 Food and PD/Banking Devise / put in place the system for hypothecation and pledging of farm produce, stocked at godowns, by financial institutions for giving credit to farmers on the basis of the receipt/ proof of storage, as also steps to enable marketability/exchange of
 - 68 Food Processing Industry
 - (i) Comprehensive revision of Food Adulteration Act and other food laws for a new integrated food law,
 - (ii) Institutionalize consultation with industry on multilateral negotiations in the food sector,
 - (iii) Strengthen quality control system for inputs and
 - 69 Health Suitable policy interventions to encourage the doctors to practice in rural areas.
 - 70 Health Infrastructure /Institutional capacities to be strengthened by a Plan/MFI scheme
 - 71 Home Finalisation of the National Disaster Management Plan and related implementation Machinery premised on maximum use of existing infrastructure, equipment, facilities and resources.
 - 72 Human Resource Development Develop transparent time bound accreditation process of Institutes of Higher Education.
 - 73 HRD (Sec. and Higher Edu.)/I&B/Culture Enact changes in relevant IPR statutes/policy to check film/music piracy.
 - 74 Human Resource Development Establish a policy, regulatory, and legal framework for establishing private universities and professional colleges, as well as vocational education. Establish a policy framework for setting up endowments by the private sector in existing universities/colleges
 - 75 Human Resource Development, Science & Technology, Finance, Commerce To establish models of public-private partnerships for collaborative R&D between Universities and private cos for sharing of costs and benefits (IPRs) on the lines of the practice in CSIR.
 - 76 IPP/Finance Introduce policy measures to promote R&D investments through FDI. Consider treatment of earnings from R&D Exports as those from any other export earnings for Income Tax purposes.
 - 77 IT/Revenue Prepare strategy for rationalization of tariff structure to cope with the zero duty regime on finished products that will come into place after 2005.
 - 78 Labour Finalise position of the Government on the recommendations of the Fourth Labour Commission
 - 79 Labour Reforms in Labour legislation, including Contract Labour (Regulations and Abolition) Act, 1970; Industrial Disputes Act and other Acts.
 - 80 Land Resources Enactment of Resettlement and Rehabilitation bill for project affected families.
 - 81 Land Resources Enactment of amendments to the Land Acquisition Act 1894.
 - 82 Law and Justice Revision of court fees (including strict insistence on payment of court fees before notices are sent out to respondents or ex-parte injunctions are issued) is needed to cover costs of judicial administration.
 - 83 Personnel Process and implement the Surendra Nath Committee Report on personnel/civil service issues.
 - 84 Petroleum and NG Formulate an Action Plan for setting up a strategic petroleum reserve.
 - 85 Petroleum and NG Develop a National Policy on India's Hydrocarbon sourcing subsequent to completion of the study on India's Hydrocarbon Security.
 - 86 Petroleum and NG Passing of the Petroleum Regulatory Board Bill 2002 and setting up of the Petroleum Regulatory Board. Content of Rules to be framed under Act may be prudently determined.
 - 87 Planning Commission/Concerned Ministries Create an apex committee to develop an Integrated Energy Policy to govern demand and supply side issues and address natural resource utilisation, environmental and equity concerns.
 - 88 Posts Take necessary action for replacing the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 by a forward looking legislation to take care of

- the needs of competition, convergence and other new developments.
- 89 Posts To draw up a road map and work out modalities for corporatisation of the postal sector
 - 90 Power Formulate rules etc. foreseen under the Electricity Act
 - 91 Power Complete pilot phase of programme for energy efficiency in Government buildings and prepare action plan for wider dissemination and implementation
 - 92 Railways Set up Rail Tariff Regulatory Authority to rationalise rail tariff.
 - 93 Railways Develop a Policy framework to categorise backlog/future Railway projects for implementation through Govt., MFI and PPP funding.
 - 94 Railways Formulate policy for outsourcing non-core railway activities.
 - 95 Rural Development Preparation of a national policy on Land Use/Resource Management.
 - 96 Science & Technology Complete the transition to a new IPRs regime to leverage our comparative advantage in knowledge based industries.
 - 97 Shipping Enact policy on major and minor ports, including Major Port Trusts Amendment Bill 2001.
 - 98 Shipping Formulate and adopt a National Policy on Major / Minor Sea Ports to facilitate private / FDI investment, and if necessary an autonomous statutory regulatory agency for tariff setting.
 - 99 Social Justice and Empowerment Develop and implement disabled friendly policies in the public/private sector.
 - 100 Social Justice and Empowerment/DEA Develop a social security scheme for the old and the disabled. This effort may be linked to the ongoing action in DEA on addressing lifetime concerns on the basis of Concept paper approved by PM.
 - 101 SSI Process and implement recommendations of the Rakesh Mohan, Abid Hussain, SP Gupta and KC Pant Committee reports on SSI.
 - 102 SSI/Cab. Sec. Process/implement ASCI report on procedural/regulatory reform of SSI sector along with follow up action on Govindrajan Committee report.
 - 103 Telecom Dept. Examine issues related to treating telecom sector as an infrastructure sector in order to achieve the targets of tele-density in line with the objectives laid down in the NPT, 1999 and the Tenth Five Year Plan and act upon them.
 - 104 Telecom Dept. To take necessary steps towards enactment and notification of Communication Convergence Bill, 2000 and put in place the required structure for its operationalisation
 - 105 Telecom Dept./Home/Defense Take necessary action for comprehensive review of the spectrum allocation policy with a view to ensuring optimum utilization.
 - 106 Tourism Introduce Public Private Partnerships in development, maintenance and operation of tourism infrastructure.
 - 107 Tourism Preparation and implementation of an Action Plan to provide tourists protection from service providers with dubious bona-fides, security and emergency services.
 - 108 Urban Development Preparation and implementation of a plan to mainstream PPP in Government Civil Works, on lines of NHAI projects, to enable improved quality and better value for money, through competition and performance based payments based on effective monitoring
 - 109 Urban Development Constitute expert group to review the mandates of DDA and other Urban Development agencies and take suitable followup action on its recommendations.
 - 110 Urban Development Formulate a National Policy on Urban Transport.
 - 111 Urban Development Formulate and implement guidelines for use of surplus government land for BPL housing and capital investment
 - 112 Urban Employment and PA Formulate National Policy and model legislation for the urban informal sector. (RELATES TO STREET VENDORS AND RICKSHAW PULLERS)
 - 113 Urban Development/Urban Employment and PA Ensure finalisation of City Challenge Fund, Pool Finance Development Facility and URIF under a single platform and facilitate necessary followup actions.
 - 114 Urban Employment and PA Restructure Swarn Jayanti Shahri Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY) with special focus on micro credit for urban informal sector and a national level review.
 - 115 Women and Child Finalise the Children`s Charter and the National Plan of Action for Children, including Identification and prioritisation of child friendly amendments required to existing laws and their enactment.
 - 116 Women and Child Operationalising the National Policy for Empowerment of Women.