

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2659
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2000
FUNDS FOR RURAL REGIONS
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Planning Commission has made an estimate of the requirement of funds for the development of the rural sector in the country for the coming years;
- (b) if so, the total estimated amount required during the current financial year and coming years;
- (c) whether the Government have identified the resources for availability of the requisite funds; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION, ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) to (d) : Development of rural sector has been accorded a high priority in the developmental plans of the Central and State Governments. The Central Government, through various central sector and centrally sponsored programmes and schemes supplements the efforts of the State Governments in their endeavour to develop the rural economy. The State Governments project the availability of funds for taking up developmental work in rural areas based on their own resources and the central assistance provided by the Government of India to the States for their Annual Plans. The gross budgetary support to the Central Ministries/Departments is decided keeping in view the national priorities and the availability of funds. The requirements of funds projected by the Ministries/Departments for the programmes undertaken for rural areas are considered in the light of national priorities which provide greater attention to the development of rural sector.

The Ninth Plan (1997-2002) allocation for rural development provided to Ministry of Rural Development was Rs.42278 crores as against Rs.31682 crores in the Eighth Plan period. For the current year, Rs.9760 crores have been allocated to Ministry of Rural Development for the schemes which address different needs of the rural population. In addition, Pradhan Mantri's Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) has been allocated Rs.5,000 crores during the current year of which a major proportion of funds would flow to the rural sector.