

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1726  
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2006  
EXTENSION TO VIDARBHA AND MAHARASHTRA DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has constituted Vidarbha and Maharashtra Development Board;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has extended the tenure of such Boards;
- (d) if so, the reasons for extending the tenure;
- (e) whether the Government has reviewed the working and achievement of the such Boards before extending their tenure; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a) & (b): Three Development Boards viz, the Vidarbha Development Board, the Marathwada Development Board and the Development Board for the Rest of Maharashtra, constituted in terms of Article 371 (2) of the Constitution, are functioning in Maharashtra since 1.5.1994.

(c): The term of the Development Boards has been extended up to 30.4.2010.

(d): In April 2005, the Governor of Maharashtra reported that the Development Boards had since their establishment taken many initiatives with respect to the responsibilities entrusted to them under Article 371(2) of the Constitution and there were many areas where their activities had reached a crucial stage which needed an effective thrust. He, therefore, recommended for extension of the term of the Development Boards up to 30.4.2010, which was accepted by the Union Government.

(e) & (f): Yes, Sir. The Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission undertook a performance evaluation study of the Statutory Development Boards and submitted its report on 3.9.2003. The Planning Commission supported the continuance of these Development Boards.