

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2125
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2006
NATIONAL REHABILITATION POLICY .
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is considering to introduce a legislation for settlement of displaced people particularly those affected by development projects;
- (b) If so, the details thereof;
- (c) Whether the Government had already formulated a national policy on rehabilitation and resettlement for the displaced persons during 2004;
- (d) If so, whether the Government has also taken the views of States before introducing legislation;
- (e) If so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon; and
- (f) The time by which it is likely to be introduced indicating the number of displaced person to be resettled thereby?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SURYKANTA PATIL)

(a) to (f) Government of India have formulated a National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation for Project Affected Families-2003, published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary on 17th February 2004. The National Policy is in the form of broad guidelines and executive instructions for guidance of all concerned and is applicable to projects displacing 500 families or more en masse in plain areas, and 250 families en masse in hilly areas, Desert Development Programme (DDP) blocks, areas mentioned in Schedule V and Schedule VI of the Constitution of India. Many State Governments have their own policies on resettlement and rehabilitation. Maharashtra Government has passed an Act on the subject, namely Maharashtra Project Affected Persons Rehabilitation Act, 1999 (Maharashtra Act No.XI of 2001).

The policy evaluation and formulation is an ongoing process. No decision has been taken so far by the Central Government to introduce a legislation on the subject.