

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3255
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004
CHINESE MODEL OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
Nambadan Shri Lonappan

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government contemplates to revamp of rural development programmes on the lines of the Chinese model; and
- (b) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the salient features of those models?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR):

(a) and (b) A Conference of Chief Ministers and State Ministers in charge of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj on Poverty Alleviation and Rural Prosperity through Panchayati Raj was organized in New Delhi on 29-30 June, 2004 jointly by the Ministry of Rural Development and Ministry of Panchayati Raj. Prime Minister in his inaugural address at this Conference emphasized the need to learn from the Chinese Model of Rural Business Hubs that add value to agricultural produce within the rural areas. The Conference decided to hold seven Round Table Conferences to formulate a draft action plan for achieving the objectives of strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions to enable them to become true institutions of self-government for planning and implementation of programmes of economic development and social justice as envisioned in the Constitution. Round Table-I scheduled to be held on 28-29 August, 2004 at Mysore will discuss 'Panchayati Raj: Planning and implementation and Rural Business Hubs'. Inter-alia, the Chinese Model of Rural Business Hubs will be discussed during this Round Table Conference. Several Indian business organisations (including FICCI, CII, ASSOCHAM and others) are providing inputs to the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Contemporary Studies which is coordinating the initial presentation of the issues at the Mysore meeting.