

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4814

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010

REMOVAL OF GAP BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS

Singh Shri Dhananjay

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the effective steps being taken by the Government to bridge the gap between the urban and rural areas ;
- (b) whether various studies conducted by the Government indicate that the rural people are not benefited adequately from crores of rupees allocated under various rural development schemes;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the further steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a): The Ministry of Rural Development is implementing through the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations various rural development programmes namely, Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP). The objectives of these schemes are overall development of rural areas and in the process the gap between urban and rural areas is likely to be bridged.

(b)&(c): The studies commissioned by the Ministry of Rural Development through reputed independent Research Organisations have shown satisfactory implementation of the schemes. However, some shortcomings were noticed like inadequate preparation of annual plan, delay in implementation of projects, lack of coordination among the line departments at district level, shortage of staff at District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs)/Zilla Parishads to implement the programmes and benefits of the programmes given to non-eligible beneficiaries in some cases.

(d): The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have been advised to adopt a five- pronged strategy to improve the implementation of the rural development schemes consisting of

- (i) creation of awareness about the schemes,
- (ii) transparency,
- (iii) people's participation,
- (iv) accountability, social audit and
- (v) vigilance and monitoring of rural development programmes at all levels.