

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2832

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2010

MEETING OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Abdulrahman Shri ;Gowda Shri D.B. Chandre;Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the meeting of the National Development Council was held in New Delhi recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the issue of left wing extremism and development in tribal areas also came for discussion in the meeting;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the resolution which was passed in the meeting of the National Development Council in this regard;
- (f) whether additional financial assistance has been sought by several States during the meeting;
- (g) if so, the details thereof; and
- (h) the various suggestions given for tackling problem of price rise, agricultural development and Naxalism?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY)

(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. The 55th Meeting of the National Development Council(NDC) meeting was held on 24

July, 2010 , in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The NDC discussed and approved the Mid-Term Appraisal of the 11th Five Year Plan. The meeting also discussed issues which inter-alia included -(i) Restoring dynamism in agriculture, (ii) Management of water resources, (iii) Challenges of urbanization, (iv) Problems of the power sector, and (v) evelopment of Tribal Areas. The need for paying special attention to address the problems of marginalised section of the country, many of which are affected by Left Wing Extremism was considered and Planning Commission was entrusted with the responsibility of designing a holistic development programme specifically for these areas.

(f) & (g): Yes, Sir. State/UT representatives among others suggested for relaxation in FRBM conditionality allowing enhanced borrowing limits for States with better repayment capacity; support towards implementation of RTE Act obligations; special assistance for the development of Left Wing Extremism affected districts; special assistance for strengthening security environment; special grant for infrastructure development; enhanced royalty to States for coal and oil mining; grant in lieu of contribution to ecological equilibrium and maintaining forest cover etc.

(h) : The following suggestions were made for tackling the problems of Price Rise, Agriculture Development and Naxalism.

i. Strengthening public distribution system and not increasing the petroleum product prices.'

ii. Adoption of improved cultivation practices, improved extension, modernisation of agricultural market, development of distribution network and better access to credit for agricultural development.

iii. Ensuring improved standards in governance, giving people a sense of participation and empowerment, effective implementation of the Forest Rights Act and Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act (PESA) and additional resources for development/special programmes for these areas.