

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4550
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2010
INCLUSIVE GROWTH
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Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken and achievements made in regard to the inclusive growth;
- (b) whether the Union Government has invited comments and views from the people, industry and experts in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith points arising there by being incorporated in the policy of the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) The Government is taking many steps towards inclusive growth. Some of the steps taken and achievements in regard to inclusive growth are the following:

The Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 has been enacted and has come into force. The National Social Security Board has been constituted under this Act for formulation of various social security schemes for workers in the unorganized sector.

Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) has been launched by the Government of India to provide health insurance coverage for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in the unorganised sector. Smart cards have been issued to large number of beneficiaries under the scheme to enable cash-less transactions.

A new Central Sector Scheme of Top Class education for SC students was introduced in 2007-08 to provide liberal financial support to a maximum 700 SC students per year admitted in premier professional educational institutes. The total number of beneficiaries anticipated to be covered in the first three years of the Eleventh Plan work out to 2,093 as against the Eleventh Plan target of 3,500.

Another scheme, i.e. Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF) for SC students was launched in 2006 to provide financial assistance to the SC students who are pursuing M.Phil and Ph.D. Under this scheme, 1,333 fellowships are annually provided to SC beneficiaries. The response of the target group has been large and growing.

In January 2007, the 'Self-Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Scavengers (SRMS) was launched with the objective of rehabilitating 3.42 lakh manual scavengers and their dependents by March, 2009. A total of Rs.175 crore is the anticipated expenditure during the first three years of the Eleventh Plan, accounting for 50 per cent utilization of the Eleventh Plan allocation.

"Dhanalakshmi" a Central Sector Scheme, which attempts to tackle the acute problem of declining sex ratio was launched in 2008 to bring about a change in the mindset of the family towards the girl child. During the first three years of the Eleventh Plan, 31 per cent of the outlay of Rs. 80 crore had been utilized.

"Ujjawala" a new Central Sector Scheme was launched on 4, December 2007 to address the problem of trafficking especially of young children and women. During the first three years of the Plan, 37 per cent of the Eleventh Plan outlay of Rs. 30 crore had been utilized. During 2008-09, the first year of operation of the scheme, 79 projects were sanctioned for 3950 women and girls against a target of 65 projects catering to 3250 beneficiaries.

The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme(MNREGS) was launched in 2006 which is aimed at enhancing the livelihood security of people in rural areas by guaranteeing 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to a rural household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. During 2008-09, more than 4.51 crore households had been provided employment under the scheme. During 2009-10, more than 5.25 crore households were provided employment under the scheme.

(b) & (c): The Planning Commission has carried out the Mid-Term Appraisal of the Eleventh Five Year Plan through Evaluation Studies by Research Institutes, field visits by officials to various parts of India, regional consultations with stakeholders and experts in the respective fields, discussions with nodal departments of the implementing Ministries as well as the Departments in State Governments dealing with the respective subjects. The salient issues arising from these consultations, studies etc have been incorporated in the Mid-Term Appraisal. These include the following:

Greater publicity to the schemes;

Flexibility and timely release of funds.

Need for Increased geographical coverage of schemes.