

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:309  
ANSWERED ON:10.11.2010  
REGIONAL DISPARITIES  
Roy Shri Nripendra Nath

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that development of infrastructure and connectivity is the single most important factor to remove regional disparities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government has formulated certain specific anti-poverty programmes with focus on infrastructure and connectivity in the country including in Orissa and Jharkhand States;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): Regional disparities result from varying factors such as differences in resource endowment, geographical and historical characteristics, availability of infrastructure etc.. The planning and development of an area is primarily the responsibility of the States/UTs concerned. The Central Government, on its part, supplements the efforts of the State/UT Governments through various Special Area Development Programmes, Flagship Programmes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(c) & (d): Various schemes focusing on poverty alleviation and also on infrastructure and connectivity are in operation in the States/UTs including Orissa and Jharkhand. The major development programmes / schemes in operation in the country are : (i) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act(MGNREGA),(ii) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana(PMGSY), (iii) Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana(SGSY), (iv) National Rural Health Mission(NRHM), (v) Integrated Child Development Service(ICDS), (vi) Total Sanitation Campaign(TSC),(vii) Mid Day Meal(MDM), (viii) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan(SSA), (ix) Indira Awas Yojana(IAY), (x) Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission(JNNURM), (xi) Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme(AIBP), (xii) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana(RGGVY), (xiii) Rajiv Gandhi Drinking Water Mission(RGDWM), (xiv) Accelerated Power Development and Reform Programme(APDRP), (xv) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana(RKVY) and (xvi) Backward Regions Grant Fund(BRGF).

(e): Does not arise.