

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2285

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2011

BHARAT NIRMAN SCHEME

Nagorao Shri Dudhgaonkar Ganeshrao;Shantha J.;Wankhede Shri Subhash Bapurao

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently reviewed the working of Bharat Nirman Schemes;
- (b) if so, the outcome thereof;
- (c) the deficiencies pointed out in the review; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to further strengthen the Bharat Nirman Scheme in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, PARLIAMENT AFFAIRS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES(DR ASHWINI KUMAR)

(a) to (c): Yes Madam. The Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) conducted by Planning Commission has reviewed the Bharat Nirman Schemes. The Bharat Nirman is a composite business plan for connecting rural India through roads, electricity and telephones; ensuring basic services like housing and water supply and improving agricultural productivity and income through investments in irrigation. The MTA has pointed out the following important issues for the shortfall in the achievement of targets of schemes being implemented under Bharat Nirman:

- (1) Rural Roads: Lack of contracting capacity in the States, delay in forest and environment clearance, prevalence of law and order Problems and non-availability of private land
- (2) Rural Electrification: Non-availability of adequate sub-transmission system in States
- (3) Irrigation: Escalation in cost of construction and financial viability of the projects
- (4) Housing: Non-availability of home stead sites to BPL households, low quality housing and inadequate unit cost of housing
- (5) Drinking Water Supply: Lack of capacity of Panchayati Raj Institutions in maintenance and upkeep of completed water supply schemes and capacity constraints of the community water users

(d): The remedial measures taken for improving the pace of implementation of various components of Bharat Nirman, inter alia, include (i) allocating additional budgetary support(ii) strengthening of institutional capacity(iii) augmentation of contracting capacity (iv) pro-active action for getting forest and environment clearance and (v) continuous monitoring of the physical and financial achievements under the different schemes by nodal Central Ministries/Departments. Further,the trend and pattern of expenditure of central Ministries/Departments are reviewed by the Ministry of Finance at regular intervals. The Planning Commission conducts half yearly review of all the sectors and suggests corrective measures to expedite the utilization of funds. This monitoring process ensures strengthening up of Bharat Nirman Schemes through effective and efficient utilization of resources for the desired outcomes.