GOVERNMENT OF INDIA PLANNING LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:463 ANSWERED ON:03.08.2011 REGIONAL IMBALANCE Reddy Shri Modugula Venugopala

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has conducted any study/survey to detect regional imbalances that exist within each State of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for the regional imbalances that exist in various States despite implementation of various Centrally Sponsored Schemes;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to increase the allocation of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes for the backward districts of the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to attain balanced development in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

- (a) & (b): Planning Commission has not conducted any survey to detect regional imbalance within the States of the country.
- (c): Regional imbalances in States result from varying factors such as differences in resource endowment, geographical and historical characteristics and availability of infrastructure.
- (d) to (f): The planning and development of an area is primarily the responsibility of the State concerned. The Central Government, on its part, supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Special Area Programmes, Flagship Programmes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. In order to specifically address the problem of regional imbalances in the country, the Government initiated the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) in 2006-07. The allocation under the Backward Regions Grant Fund has been increased from Rs. 7300 crore in 2010-11 to Rs. 9890 crore in 2011-12.