

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4569
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2011
SOCIAL SECTOR AGENDA
Swamygowda Shri N Cheluvarama Swamy

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether social sector agenda of the Government is being implemented through its eight flagship schemes in which more than one lakh crore has already been spent during the last three years, despite fiscal constraints;
- (b) if so, whether the outcome is commensurate with the funds allocated/ utilised in a transparent manner;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is considering to enact 'Right to Accountability Act' asking officials to deliver services in a time bound manner; and
- (e) if so, the time by which the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

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

(a): The development agenda of the Government is reflected in thirteen flagship schemes. Of these, seven are in the social sector, namely Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Water and Sanitation Mission [including National Drinking Water Supply Programme & Total Sanitation Campaign] and Skill Development Mission. Government of India has spent more than one lakh crore through these seven flagship schemes in the social sector during the last three years. The flagship schemes in the social sector are supplemented by other centrally sponsored schemes and central sector schemes.

(b) to (c): The flagship Programmes/ Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) are being implemented by the State/UT Governments and their agencies. The administrative Ministries/Departments concerned deal with release of funds and other attendant functions thereto including monitoring the progress of CSS and keeping track of performance of the schemes implemented by the States on a continuous basis. The outcome of such schemes is available in the outcome budget of the implementing Ministries/Departments. The Planning Commission during Annual Plan discussions with the States reviews the progress of the various flagship programmes. The Mid Term Appraisal (MTA) of the plans also provides the outcome of these schemes. It indicates that almost universal access to primary education; improved enrolment / attendance of children, particularly from weaker sections; retention of girls in schools; improved access to employment avenues; increase in the number of institutional deliveries; improved disease control in some programmes; improved sanitation in rural India etc. has been achieved through the operation of these CSS. The MTA of the Eleventh Five Year Plan is available on the website of the Planning Commission (<http://planningcommission.nic.in>). Additionally a Delivery Monitoring Unit (DMU) has been set up in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) to review performance of select Flagship programmes / initiatives / iconic projects. The DMU reports are available on the websites of the concerned Central Ministry as well as in PMO website (<http://pmindia.nic.in/dmu.htm>). Reforms in the schemes, if any, are proposed and necessary approvals are obtained by respective implementing Ministries/departments as and when considered necessary.

(d): There is no proposal at present to enact a 'Right to Accountability Act'. However, there are existing guidelines and provisions which envisage transparent and time bound delivery of public services.

(e): Does not arise.