

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:48

ANSWERED ON:15.03.2012

RECRUITMENT OF PERSONNEL FOR NAXAL AFFECTED DISTRICTS

Patil Shri Sanjay Dina ;Sule Supriya

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has launched a scheme to recruit non-IAS officers as a separate cadre to assist the bureaucrats in the naxal affected districts in the implementation of rural development programmes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to initiate Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellowship Scheme, to rejuvenate the administration of naxal affected areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Starred Question No.48 due for reply on 15.03.2012.

On 13th September, 2011, a scheme of Rural Development Fellows, namely Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellows (PMRDFs) scheme, was announced by the Minister of Rural Development in the one day National workshop for devising 'Appropriate Strategies for effective implementation of schemes of Rural Development in IAP districts' for deploying young professionals in each of the Integrated Action Plan (IAP) Districts to assist the District Administration. The PMRDF Scheme was announced in the National workshop based on the perceived need for some professional assistance to implement development schemes better. The status of the PMRD Fellows will be that of trainees. This Fellowship will provide a unique opportunity for capacity building of young professionals and at the same-time provide assistance to the District Administration in better implementation of developmental schemes. On successful completion, the Fellows will be awarded a proficiency certificate. The PMRDFs will work under the District Collectors and assist the District administration in the following areas, among others:

i. Conducting socio-economic analysis of the District and ascertaining the felt needs of the people;

ii. Assisting in better implementation of flagship programmes such as the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act Scheme (MGNREGA), National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM), National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), Integrated Watershed Management Programme (IWMP) and IAP;

iii. Monitoring and evaluation of the outcomes of the above programmes;

iv. Creating a network for voluntary cooperation in the local area etc.

The duration of the Fellowship will be for a period of two years extendable by one year based on performance. The PMRDFs scheme will be coordinated at Central level by CAPART, a registered society under the Ministry. The selection of the fellows will be done by a process, which involves State Government representatives and Collectors from IAP districts. It is proposed to deploy two fellows in each of the 78 IAP districts. Selection process has been completed for all the Districts. Deployment in the districts will be decided by the State Governments concerned.