

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:356
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012
BASIC AMENITIES
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a large segment of the population in different States including Maharashtra are deprived of facilities of drinking water, health care, education and employment;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is taking/proposes to take any concrete action for addressing the said problems; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof

Answer

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

(a) to (c): The government accords high priority to provide basic amenities like drinking water, health care, education and employment to uplift the standard of living of the population especially the marginalized sections in different States including Maharashtra. 'Inclusive growth' emphasised in the Eleventh Five Year Plan resulted in lower incidence of poverty, broad-based and significant improvement in health outcomes, universal access for children to school, increased access to higher education and improved standards of education, including skill development. It is also reflected in better opportunities for both wage employment and livelihood, and in improvement in provision of basic amenities like water, electricity, roads, sanitation and housing. Particular attention was paid to the needs of the SC/ST and OBC population. Bharat Nirman, a time-bound plan for rural infrastructure launched by the Government of India to be implemented by State Governments and Panchayati Raj Institutions is in operation since 2005. Under the scheme, action was initiated in the areas of irrigation, road, rural housing, rural water supply, rural electrification and rural telecommunication connectivity. Specific targets were set under each of these goals. The first phase of the program was completed in 2009 and based on the outcome; revised targets were set for second phase beginning 2010. Apart from Bharat Nirman a number of other flagship schemes are also in operation to address specific issues. They include Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDMS), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), and Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY) et.al. To improve the pace of implementation of these schemes, it is proposed to

- (i) allocate 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.