

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
PLANNING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5368  
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2012  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EACH CITIZEN  
Singh Smt. Meena

**Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government is taking steps to prepare layout Plan to provide equal opportunities to every citizen of India for development; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b) : Taking steps to ensure equal opportunities for all citizen has been amongst the core policies of the Government ever since independence. Currently, Government is in the process of formulation of the Twelfth Plan which focuses on "Faster, Sustainable and More Inclusive Growth". The focus on inclusiveness is aimed at providing equal opportunities to citizens in terms of access to education, healthcare, wage employment and livelihood opportunities besides provision of basic amenities like water, electricity, roads, sanitation and housing. The Approach to the Twelfth Plan also emphasizes on paying special attention to the needs of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes/Other backward Classes, Minorities, Women, Children and other excluded groups. All developmental policies of the Government of India are intended to serve the country with the objective of providing equality of opportunities for all citizens of India, particularly those who live on the margin.