

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:103
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2013
BHARAT RURAL LIVELIHOOD FOUNDATION
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep;Dhanaplan Shri K. P.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to setup the Bharat Rural Livelihood Foundation for transforming livelihoods and lives of rural households;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof along with its terms of reference, aims and objectives; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to involve corporate India in various development activities in the rural areas of the country specially in Haryana?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN 'ADITYA')

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The salient features of B.R.L.F. are:

1. The Government of India has set up the B.R.L.F. as an independent society.
2. B.R.L.F.'s mission is to facilitate and upscale civil society action in partnership with Government for transforming livelihoods and lives of rural households, with an emphasis on women, particularly in the Central Indian Tribal Region.
3. B.R.L.F. will provide financial grants to civil society organisations (C.S.Os) to meet their human resource and institutional costs for upscaling of proven interventions, invest in institutional strengthening of smaller C.S.Os, and, capacity building of professional human resources working at the grassroots.
4. B.R.L.F. will continuously facilitate projects receiving its grant support through all levels of Government to ensure smooth flow and utilization of Government funds to rural communities and poor households under the mega Centrally Sponsored Scheme (C.S.S) flagship programmes for promoting livelihoods of the poor.
5. The Government of India has committed a sum of Rs. 500 Crore for creating the corpus fund for BRLF.

(c) The steps taken by the Government under the B.R.L.F. to involve corporate India are:

1. Private philanthropies, private and public sector undertakings have been invited on the Governing Board of B.R.L.F.
2. Private philanthropies, private and public sector undertakings are encouraged to significantly contribution towards the corpus of B.R.L.F.
3. Private philanthropies, public and private sector undertakings are encouraged to partner with B.R.L.F. and provide annual grants or provide co-financing support to B.R.L.F. funded projects.

Initially B.R.L.F. will focus on around 900 blocks that have more than 20% tribal population in 170 districts in nine States including West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Gujarat. Later, B.R.L.F. will extend to rest of the States in India, including Haryana.