

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2184
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013
ASSISTANCE FOR BACKWARD DISTRICTS
Singh Rajkumari Ratna;Tudu Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country is getting any assistance from international agencies/institutions for the development of backward areas in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the projects/programmes being undertaken with the above assistance along with the benefits accrued as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & PLANNING (SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA)

(a) & (b): Assistance of World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) are not earmarked. World Bank and ADB finance projects posed to them by Government of India. Projects which get international assistance from international agencies/institutions are implemented in the Central and State Sectors. Most of the assistance from international agencies/institutions is sector/project specific and a number of projects are in operation in the country including in backward areas. Some of the projects focusing on poverty alleviation, livelihoods and rural development include Rural Livelihood Projects in Bihar, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, Mitigation of Poverty in Western Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh District Rural Poverty Project, Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction Project, Jharkhand- Chhattisgarh Tribal Development Programme, Odisha Tribal Empowerment and Livelihood Programme, Andhra Pradesh Rural Poverty Reduction Project, etc.

(c): Though assistance from international agencies/institutions is a very small part of our development expenditure but engagement with the international agencies helps in leveraging global knowledge and expertise, carry out innovation in development as well as undertake capacity building. All these play a useful role in support of Government of India's efforts in poverty reduction in the country, including backward areas.