

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:180  
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009  
REVITALISATION OF PUBLIC RURAL TRANSPORT  
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

**Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to revitalise the public rural transport in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government proposes to undertake/has undertaken any assessment of the State transport undertakings;
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the outcome, State-wise;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for revitalisation/improvement of public rural transport in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH )

(a)&(b) The Ministry has finalized a scheme to provide central assistance to the States/Union Territories (UTs)/State Transport Undertakings (STUs) to strengthen public transport system especially in the rural areas of the country. The scheme envisages central assistance to support implementation of information technology such as Global Positioning System(GPS)/Global System for Mobile Communications(GSM) based vehicle tracking system, Automatic Ticket Vending Machines etc and for working out mobility plan.

(c) & (d) The performance of the STUs is periodically assessed by this Ministry based on certain key indicators such as number of fleet owned by the STU, fleet utilization and average age of the fleet of various STUs, total revenue earned/total cost involved etc. A table indicating the figures for above key parameters of various STUs as on 31st March, 2008 is at Annexure.

(e) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) & (d) above.

(f) In addition to the scheme as mentioned in reply to part (a) & (b) above, the Ministry had also prepared a separate draft scheme to provide central assistance to the States/UTs/STUs for procurement of buses for operation in rural /mofussil areas. However, the draft scheme has not been agreed to by Planning Commission. Subsequently, this Ministry has taken up with Ministry of Rural Development to include the provision for central assistance to the State Transport Undertakings for procurement of the buses under their various rural development programmes such as Provision for Urban amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) scheme to strengthen the public transport system in the rural areas.