

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3799
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2015
SELF HELP GROUPS
Singh Shri Parvesh Sahib

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the Self Help Groups (SHGs) play an important role for enhancing the financial condition and capacity of poor women particularly in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the targets fixed for structuring SHGs in the villages during each of the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the extent to which the targets have been achieved, State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the time by when all the blocks are likely to be covered under SHGs in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

- (a): Yes, Madam. The Government is implementing National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) which focuses on social mobilization of rural poor, continuous capacity building of the women Self Help Groups (SHGs), imparting requisite skills and creating linkages with livelihoods opportunities for the poor. NRLM is working proactively on improving financial inclusion and SHG Bank linkages. A multi-pronged approach is adopted for providing continuous capacity building of the targeted families, SHGs, their federations, Government functionaries, bankers, and Non Governmental Organizations.
- (b) and (c): NRLM has been launched on 3rd June, 2011 and many States have started implementation of the programme only during 2013-14 onwards.. Targets for promotion of Self Help Groups for the years 2013-14 and 2014-15 have been fixed. A statement indicating targets and achievements for the years 2013-14 and 2014-15 (up to December 2014) is enclosed as Annexure I.
- (d): NRLM has adopted a phased implementation strategy to provide intensive support to the SHGs and their federations so that the Mission reaches out to all rural poor households by 2024-25.