

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4963
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2015
MAJOR POLICY INITIATIVES
Rao Shri Rayapati Sambasiva

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the major policy initiatives of the new Government since it took over for the rural development of the country;
- (b) whether there is any innovative idea or scheme which aims at ensuring a major shift in the way rural development is hitherto visualised;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the funds allocated for the current year and utilized till now; and
- (e) whether the Ministry has undertaken a study to know the fruits accrued or benefits reached to the vast rural populace and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): Ministry of Rural Development is implementing various rural development programmes including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) and Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) through State Governments and UT Administrations. The objective of these programmes is to bring about overall improvement in the quality of life in rural areas through employment generation, development of rural infrastructure and provision of other basic amenities. Various new initiatives were taken up during 2014-15 under these programmes for effective implementation and improved outcomes. Aajeevika-Skills, a sub-scheme of NRLM, has been revamped as Deen Dayal Upadhyay Grameen Kaushalya Yojana.

During 2014-15 new schemes namely, Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY), Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) and Village Entrepreneurship 'Start-Up' Programme were initiated to further improve the pace of rural development.

Under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana each Member of Parliament can adopt a Gram Panchayat to develop it into a replicable model of 'Adarsh Gram' in a time bound manner. SPMRM proposes to bring about an integrated development of a cluster of Gram Panchayats around a potential growth centre for providing livelihoods opportunities and urban amenities to improve the quality of life in rural areas.

(d): The details about the fund allocated to various Rural Development schemes for 2014-15 and 2015-16 and releases made for 2014-15 are given at Annexure-I.

(e): The Ministry conducts independent studies time to time to know the impact of rural development schemes. The impact of rural development programmes has been found satisfactory.