

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5988
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2015
BHARAT NIRMAN VOLUNTEERS
Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of Bharat Nirman Volunteers (BNVs) in the country, State/UT-wise including Karnataka;
- (b) the efforts made or proposed to be made for effectively using BNVs so as to take schemes to rural households;
- (c) whether any special plan has been drawn for this purpose in the Twelfth Five Year Plan; and
- (d) 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) A total number of 3,50,822 Bharat Nirman Volunteers(BNVs) have been enrolled in 300 Districts in 2082 Blocks in 23786 Panchayats so far. The State/UT-wise number of BNVs including Karnataka is annexed.
- (b) The Ministry of Rural Development has been making continuous efforts to extend the Initiative to more areas by addressing the States. The State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs), Extension Training Centres(ETCs) and States are consulted from time to time for expanding the Initiative in more blocks of the country and as a result, over 3.5 lakh BNVs have been enrolled so far.
- (c)&(d) No, Madam. Bharat Nirman Volunteers are not provided any financial assistance/remune- ration/honorarium which would necessitate a specific provision in the Plan Budget. However, the Department of Rural Development has a component to fund their training programme from its training budget.