

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2500
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2014
POLICY FOR INVESTMENT IN RURAL SECTOR
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Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any comprehensive policy for reform labour and financial sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any separate policy has been formulated by the Government for investment in rural sector;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government for making and bringing innovative policies to attract more public investment in rural sectors?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

(a) & (b): Policy and legislative changes are regular exercises undertaken by the Government to address the dynamics of the financial sector. The Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission (FSLRC) report has proposed a comprehensive review of financial sector legislations and restructuring of the regulatory architecture to meet the contemporaneous requirements of the growing Indian economy. Major labour reforms of the Government are generic in nature, cut across rural and urban areas and pertain to labour legislations such as the Child Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1986, the Factories Act, 1948, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the Apprenticeship Act, 1961 and the Labour Laws (Exemption from Furnishing Returns and Maintaining Registers by Certain Establishments) Act, 1988.

(c) to (e): The thrust of the development planning has been to boost investment in the rural sector by allocating more resources through various Central and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The various Centrally Sponsored Schemes /programmes such as Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM), Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Accelerated Irrigation Benefit & Flood Management Programme (AIBFMP), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), National Health Mission (NHM) and Integrated Watershed Management Programme etc. are the exclusive interventions to develop infrastructure and create employment opportunities and conducive environment to attract further investment in the rural economy. Government has also launched the scheme "Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas" (PURA) under Public Private Partnership (PPP) frameworks between Gram Panchayats and Private Sector Partners. In his Budget Speech (2014-15), the Finance Minister has announced the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Rurban Mission to deliver integrated project based infrastructure in rural areas that includes development of economic activities and skill development. Other measures announced include increase in corpus of Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Warehouse Infrastructure Fund, and allocation for Short Term Cooperative Rural Credit (STCRC) - Refinance Fund and creation of Long Term Rural Credit Fund etc.