

an>

Title: Need to provide matching grant of 70 per cent by the Central Government for implementation of Sanitation projects in Zaheerabad, Andhra Pradesh and other parts of country-laid.

SHRI SURESH KUMAR SHETKAR (ZAHEERABAD): It is said that "Health is Wealth" and we can ensure it through proper sanitation facilities only. The Sanitation programmes which are being implemented in our country are not giving the actual desired results not only in my parliamentary constituency- Zaheerabad in Andhra Pradesh but all over the country as a whole, particularly in rural areas. Already the States are facing financial crunch and are not in a position to fund the sanitation projects properly due to various reasons. Now days, the Government is allocating only Rs. 3,000 per unit for sanitation related activities. This amount is insufficient to carry out the sanitation activities properly and there is a dire need to allocate at least Rs.7,000 to Rs. 8,000 per unit to take up the sanitation projects in the current five year plan to meet the rising costs and to get the quality work.

The Ministry should kindly consider and implement the sanitation related programmes through the matching grant of 70 per cent by the central Government and 30 per cent by the respective State Governments so that the works cannot be affected due to financial problems. There should not be any type of lack of funds in implementing the sanitation related programmes in rural and urban areas of our country. NGOs and local people must be involved in sanitation programmes with proper awareness with separate budgetary allocation from the Central Government.

I, therefore, request the concerned Hon'ble Minister, through the Chair, to implement the sanitation projects in the country with the matching grant of 70 per cent by the Central Government and 30 per cent PER UNIT by the respective State Governments in the remaining Five Year Plan Period (2007-12) especially in Andhra Pradesh and all over the country.