

Linking of villages with roads in H.P.

†4092. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the district-wise and Panchayat-wise number of villages in Himachal Pardesh which have not been connected with suitable metalled roads for all weather conditions;

(b) whether it is a fact that Central Government have formulated a national rural roads linkages scheme; and

(c) if so, what measures Central Government will take in next two years under this scheme to connect all the villages in Himachal Pradesh with metalled roads ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) The requisite information will be obtained from the State Government of Himachal Pradesh and placed on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) A scheme for providing rural connectivity through construction of roads in the country is being formulated.

Proposal to provide employment to ten lakh youths

†4093. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to provide self-employment to ten lakh youths belonging to most deprived families;

(b) if so, what are the details regarding Gujarat;

(c) what will be the total outlay for this programme and the time-frame for its implementation; and

(d) the name of implementing agency for the programme and the details of sources through which funds are to be provided ?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUNDAR LAL PATWA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry is implementing a holistic self-employment programme-Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) with effect from 1st April, 1999. The objective of SGSY is to bring he assisted below poverty

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

line families (Swarozgaris) above the poverty line in three years, by providing them income-generating assets through a mix of Bank credit and Government subsidy. This programme covers all aspects of self-employment such as organisation of the poor into Self Help Groups, training, credit, technology, infrastructure and marketing. The programme is being implemented in the States/ Union Territories (except Delhi and Chandigarh) including Gujarat.

(c) and (d) During 2000-2001, central allocation (subsidy) of Rs. 969.46 crore (B.E.), including North Eastern States, has been allocated for the programme. The effort will be to cover 30% of the poor families in each block during the next five years subject to availability of funds. The SGSY is implemented by the District Rural Development Agencies through the Panchayat Samitis. The programme is funded by the Centre and the States in the ratio of 75 : 25.

Water supply schemes pending approval

†4094. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of water supply schemes are pending for approval with Government;

(b) if so, the details of water supply schemes for the rural areas of Gujarat pending for approval with Central Government; and

(c) whether the Central Government propose to provide special financial assistance for launching these schemes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. RAJA) : (a) Rural Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. The State Governments implement the programme under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government only supplements the efforts of the States by providing funds under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). Powers have been delegated to the States to plan, sanction and implement their individual water supply schemes. As such, no water supply schemes for the rural areas are pending with Government.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Accelerated Urban Water Supply Programme (AUWSP), 22 water supply schemes have not been approved as on

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