

Hydro Power Corporation (OHPC) and the Grid Corporation of Orissa (GRIDCO) in undertaking their institutional development. The project seeks to extend assistance to GRIDCO in its programme for Transmission and Distribution related activities. The project also covers facilitating the operationalisation of the Orissa Regulatory Reforms Commission and undertaking of a variety of demand side measures. The loan, upon becoming effective, would aim at project-implementation in the period of about 5 years.

Central Assistance for Generating Rural Employment

1270. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Central assistance given to different States and Union Territories for projects relating to rural employment generation during 1995-96; and

(b) the criteria for granting the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHADRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) Statement showing the Central releases to the States/UTs under wage employment schemes i.e. Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY), Million Wells Scheme (MWS), Intensified JRY and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) during the year 1995-96 is annexed. [See Appendix 178, Annexure No. 33]

(b) The criteria for granting for Central assistance is as under:-

Under JRY (Including IAY & MWS) Central assistance is given to the States/UTs on the basis of proportion of rural poor in a State/ UT to the total rural poor in the country. The poverty estimates prepared by the Planning Commission based on 43rd Round National Sample Survey Organisation's Survey are used.

Resources under the second stream of JRY (IJRY) were distributed among the 120 backward districts on the basis of backwardness index formulated by

assigning equal weightage to the proportion of rural SC/ST population in a district to total SC/ST population of all selected backward districts and inverse of per capita production of agricultural workers.

Under EAS Central Assistance is given on the basis of categorisation of blocks. Taking rural population of block divided by total rural population of blocks covered under the scheme and multiplied by ten thousand, a weight was given to each block. Accordingly, block with the weightage of 7.5 or more (i.e. population more than 196287) was considered as 'A' category, block with less than 7.5 and more than 2.5 (i.e. population between 196287 to 65585) was considered as 'B' category and block with the weightage of less than 2.5 (i.e. population less than 65585) was considered as 'C' category block. In case of such block for which date was not available, the same has also been considered as 'C' category block.

On the basis of categorisation 'A' category block was given Rs. 80.00 lakhs, 'B' category block was given Rs. 60.00 lakhs and 'C' category block was given Rs. 40.00 lakhs for the year 1995-96.

Digging of Bore Wells in States

1271. SHRI V. NARAYANAYNASAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bore wells dug by Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan during the last two years, with the funds allocated by the Centre under the Rural Development Schemes, State-wise;

(b) whether the Centre has taken any steps to set up Groundwater Development Agency, on the pattern of the Central Water Development Agency; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to consider setting up of such an agency immediately, in view of huge funds being provided to States under the Rural Development Scheme of the Centre?