

(b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has approached the Union Cabinet for a proposed outlay of Rs. 137,742 crore development plan in this regard; and

(c) the details of proposed outlay required to be spent by Government on road-connectivity, education, health services, rural electrification and on irrigation so as to bring the least developed areas at par with National Development, district-wise, State-wise, year-wise, during 2010-2011?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):
(a) to (c) As per the Finance Minister's Budget Speech (2010-11), the Planning Commission is to prepare an Integrated Action Plan for the focus districts affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE). To address critical gaps in development in focus LWE districts, Planning Commission has initiated the process of preparation of Integrated Action Plans (IAPs) for focus districts with help of State Governments, District Administrations, elected representatives and other stakeholders. The issue was also discussed in the National Development Council (NDC) meeting held on 24th July, 2010. The details of the Integrated Action Plan are in the process of being finalized.

Identifying urban poor

2794. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has set up a committee to work out a methodology for identifying the urban poor for implementation of the Rajiv Awaas Yojana;

(b) if so, whether the committee has submitted its recommendations to Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof and whether the poverty estimation methods suggested by the Tendulkar and Saxena Committees would also be considered by the newly set up committee; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) The Planning Commission has constituted an Expert Group on 13th May 2010 under the Chairmanship of Prof. S.R. Hashim to recommend a methodology for identification of Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in urban areas for extending benefits to them under various welfare schemes.

(b) to (d) The Expert Group has not yet submitted its recommendation to the Government. The Expert Group is aware of the Tendulkar Committee report on methodology for estimation of poverty and the Saxena Committee report on the methodology for identification of BPL households in rural areas.

Special Development Programmes

2795. SHRI MANGAL KISAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the special development programmes and planning of the Central Government for the backward areas of the tribal populated regions of the country;

(b) the number of districts located in the backward and neglected regions of the country; and

(c) the socio-economy conditions of the people of these backward regions of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY):

(a) and (b) The Planning and Development of an area is primarily the responsibility of the States concerned. The Central Government, on its part, supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Special Area Programmes, Flagship Programmes and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. In order to specifically address the problem of regional imbalances in development in the country, the Government is implementing the schemes of Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) in 2006-07. The BRGF has two components, namely, (i) special Plans for Bihar and the undivided Kalahandi – Bolangir – Koraput (KBK) districts of Orissa, and (ii) Districts Component covering 250 districts. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides Special Central Assistance to the States under Special Area Development Programme through the schemes of – (i) Special Central Assistance to