

Gross domestic product in country

‡3273. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that schemes are being implemented with fixed target of increasing the rate of annual gross domestic product in the country;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in a populated country like India, providing employment to the largest number of people is more important than GDP growth; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government?

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

(a) to (d) The Eleventh Five Year Plan recognizes the need to achieve the inclusive growth. It has been acknowledged that a key feature of the inclusive growth strategy should not be treated as an end in itself but only as a means to an end. Accordingly, the Eleventh Five Year Plan has adopted 27 monitorable targets to reflect the multi-dimensional economic and social objectives of inclusive growth. India being a populated country, generation of new employment opportunities has been the critical component of strategy of development planning. The Eleventh Five Year Plan which envisaged average Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate of 9% per year also set the targets of generation of 58 million new work opportunities, reduction of unemployment among the educated to less than 5%, reduction in the head-count ratio of consumption poverty by 10 percentage points and 20% rise in the real wage rate of unskilled workers. The implementation of various flagship programmes is in line with the above national objectives of achieving a high growth rate which is inclusive.

Unique identification number and card

3274. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working to provide a Unique Identification number and cards to every citizen;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government had made any appraisal about the progress of this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the distribution of these UID would begin?

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

(a) and (b) The mandate of the Unique Identification Authority

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of India (UIDAI) is to issue Unique Identification numbers (AADHAAR) to all residents of the country. The UIDAI will issue a number and not a card. The number will prove identity and not citizenship.

(c) and (d) The progress of the project is reviewed from time to time by the Cabinet Committee on UIDAI. Phase-I of the project comprising setting up of necessary infrastructure, finalization of standards for biometric and demographic data standards and proof of concept experiments has been completed. Phase II of the programme has commenced. 10 crore residents are expected to be enrolled into the Unique Identification programme by March, 2011.

(e) The first set of UID numbers (AADHAAR) are expected to be issued between August, 2010 and February, 2011.

Farmers benefited from rural development schemes

3275. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission has sent any teams to various districts to study that how many farmers have actually benefited from rural development schemes like MNREGS;

(b) whether any team was sent to districts in Andhra Pradesh in the last two months;

(c) the names of such districts where Planning Commission has sent teams on receipt of notices of irregularities, etc.;

(d) the measures proposed to include more traditional farmers in MNREGS; and

(e) to what extent farmers have not availed of any benefits from MNREGS?

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

(a) to (c) Planning Commission has not sent any team to various districts including in Andhra Pradesh to study how many farmers have actually benefitted from rural development schemes like Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). However, field visits of officers of Planning Commission are organised in States/UTs to study/impact the various Central/Centrally Sponsored Schemes.

(d) The Government has extended the benefits as stipulated in Para 1 (iv) of Schedule 1 of Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act to small and marginal farmers *vide* notification dated 27.7.2009. Para I (iv) of Schedule-1 of the Act as amended from time to time is as given below:—

“Provision of irrigation facility, horticulture plantation and land development facilities to land owned by households belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes or below poverty line families or to beneficiaries of land reforms or to the beneficiaries under the Indira Awas Yojana of Government of India or that of the small farmers or marginal farmers as defined in the Agriculture Debt Waiver and Debt Relief Scheme, 2008”.