

1	2	3	4	5
48.	Air India Air Transport Services Ltd.	-98	-112	-23
49.	Sponge Iron India Ltd.	-92	648	403
50.	Orissa Drugs and Chemicals Ltd.	-61	-61	-71
51.	Handicrafts and Handloom Exports Corporation of India Ltd.	-47	-709	-267
52.	Jammu and Kashmir Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.	-30	-20	-18
53.	Madhya Pradesh Ashok Hotel Corporation Ltd.	-6	28	24
54.	Millennium Telecom Ltd.	-5	28	3
TOTAL:		-1442408	-544242	-225589

#### Establishment of rural trade centres

†1357. SHRIMATI BIMLA KASHYAP SOOD: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has prepared any action plan for setting up rural trade centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any assistance would be provided for setting up rural trade centres in Himachal Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the time by when these centres are expected to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI VILASRAO DESHMUKH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is implementing a Scheme of Rural Business Hubs (RBHs) for promoting manufacturing and marketing of products using raw materials /skills available in the rural areas. The Scheme works on a Public-Private-Panchayat-Partnership model and is applicable in all the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) districts and all the districts in the North Eastern Region. Assistance under the RBH scheme is available for professional support services, training/skill development and for purchase of minor equipment. The maximum grant given for a project is Rs. 25 lakh. Project proposals have to be prepared by the aspirant Implementing Agencies in consultation with Gram Panchayats and sent to this Ministry with the recommendation of State Government.

(c) and (d) There are only two districts covered by the Scheme of BRGF in Himachal Pradesh viz Sirmour and Chamba. So far, two proposals received from

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

M/s. Alacrity Exports Private Limited, Jaipur, were found viable for setting up RBHs on Kantha Hand Stitched products in Chamba and Sirmour Districts of Himachal Pradesh and financial assistance of approximately Rs. 16.00 lakh each was provided to the Implementing Agency during the years 2008-09.

Since, this is a demand driven Scheme, the financial or other assistance would be provided in case of the projects received from these two districts in future after examining the same as per the guidelines of the Scheme and others relevant factors thereof.

#### **Transfer of subjects to Panchayats**

1358. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts so far made by the Ministry to transfer subjects prescribed to Panchayats by various States;

(b) the details of States which have transferred all the prescribed subjects to Panchayats;

(c) what are the reasons that other States are not inclined to transfer the subjects; and

(d) how the Ministry is persuading the States to transfer subjects to Panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI VILASRAO DESHMUKH): (a) and (d) Ministry of Panchayati Raj has issued advisories to the States on 9.4.2009, 23.10.2009 and 1.12.2009 on Panchayat finance, manpower and effective devolution of Funds, Functions and Functionaries (3Fs) respectively (available on MoPR's website [www.panchayat.nic.in](http://www.panchayat.nic.in)). In addition, under Panchayat Empowerment and Accountability Incentive Scheme (PEAIS), the Ministry commissions every year a study on the Devolution Index (DI) that ranks States for undertaking measures for devolution of funds, functions and functionaries (3Fs) to the Panchayats. The DI study for the year 2009-10 found the performance of Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Maharashtra and among the North East States, Sikkim to be the best in devolution of 3Fs.

(b) and (c) Under Article 243G of the Constitution, States are to endow the Panchayats with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as institutions of self-government and to plan and implement schemes for economic development and social justice, including those in relation to matters listed in the Eleventh Schedule. 'Panchayats' is a State subject and the States devolve powers to the Panchayats in their own context.