

Rural Business Hub Scheme

†1155. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE :

SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE:

SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA:

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether rural business hub scheme is being implemented by Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of Panchayats selected for its implementation along with the progress made so far under this scheme;

(c) the details of proposals received from State Governments under this scheme and the amount of money allotted, released and spent, State-wise as per the information given by the States under this scheme, every year during the last three years along with the current year;

(d) the details of targets fixed under this scheme along with the measures contemplated to be taken to achieve them; and

(e) the details of changes made in this scheme so far and the amended directions thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Rural Business Hubs (RBHs) for promoting businesses 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 BRGF districts and all the districts in the North-Eastern Region. Assistance under RBH Scheme is available for professional support services, training/skill development and for purchase of minor equipment. The proposals under the scheme are prepared and sent by the willing and interested Implementing Agencies and are required to be sent through the State Government or District level officials. There is no State-wise allocation of funds. No expenditure is incurred by the State Governments on the proposals submitted by the Implementing Agencies. The financial assistance is provided to the Implementing Agencies in two installments keeping in view the viability

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

of their projects and proper utilization of the funds released. The scheme was started in the year 2007-08. More than 700 proposals have been received from Implementing Agencies, bulk of which have not been recommended by State Governments or District Level Officials. However, financial assistance has been provided for 76 proposals so far are given in the Statement. [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to S/US No. 1154 [Part (a) to (c)].

(d) RBH is a demand driver scheme and no targets are fixed for it.

(e) The guidelines of the RBH Scheme as revised till 20.10.2011 are available on the website of this Ministry (www.panchayat.gov.in). The revisions made in the guidelines are to the effect:

- (i) Earlier the proposals needed to be recommended by the Panchayati Raj Department of the concerned States/UTs Government. This condition has been relaxed and recommendation of District Collectors or Chief Executive Officers of the Zilla Parishad of the concerned District is considered adequate.
- (ii) Earlier the proposals of RBH were to be considered and approved by an Empowerment Committee headed by the Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj. This has been discontinued. Now the proposals of RBH are initially examined by the RBH Division of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj in consultation with the Integrated Finance Division and the final approval is obtained from the Divisional Head of RBH.

Success of Panchayats

1156. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI : Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Panchayati Raj System is fully successful in the country;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) what more Government is doing to make this system successful;

(d) whether Government is aware that in some States a number of departments have been given to the Panchayats without giving any funds; and

(e) the steps that Government is taking to solve this problem?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA DEO): (a) and (b) Regular elections to Panchayats have been held with reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled