

High Level Committee on Financing Infrastructure

The Government has appointed a High Level Committee on Financing Infrastructure to make a range of recommendations to enable the requisite flow of investment in infrastructure during the Twelfth Five Year Plan. The Committee has set up four key sub-groups on developing capital markets for intermediating long-term savings for investment in infrastructure projects, taxation and debt, foreign capital inflows in infrastructure financing, and flow of equity to infrastructure projects to make recommendations in their respective areas.

Infrastructure Debt Fund (IDF)

India's first Infrastructure Debt Fund (IDF) of US \$ 2 billion has been launched on March 5, 2012. This IDF would be structured as a non-banking finance company with an initial equity share of Rs. 300 crore and is envisaged to expand the availability of debt to infrastructure projects. Further, a few more IDFs are also expected to be launched soon.

Tribals forced to pay for UID cards

2114. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) glitch forces adivasis to pay for free enrolment; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Implementation of SCSP/TSP

2115. DR. BHALCHANDRA MUNGEKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has taken care to implement the recommendations of the task force accepted by the Planning Commission with respect to Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and the Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP);

(b) the details thereof;

(c) which Ministry is satisfied with the Planning Commission recommendation; and

- (d) the steps the Ministry proposes to take to ensure the implementations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) As per the recommendations of the Task Force to re-examine and revise the extant guidelines for implementation of Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan (SCSP) and Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP), 25 Central Ministries/Departments are required to earmark funds under SCSP and 28 Central Ministries/Departments are required to earmark funds under TSP. The concerned Central Ministries/Departments are expected to implement the recommendations of the Task Force. As per the recommendations, the Ministry of Planning has been placed under the category of 'No-obligation' and is not required to earmark funds under SCSP and TSP.

Determination of living standard of family

†2116. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the standard fixed by Government regarding the daily wages of the BPL families of rural and urban areas to determine the standard of those families;

(b) whether the Government has used the norms of Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) acceptable through out the world to define the poverty;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the standards regarding the daily wages fixed by Government have been shown for determining BPL families and poverty line;

(e) if so, the numbers of the beneficiaries by this scheme, State-wise including Uttarakhand; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) Government does not prescribe any standard regarding fixation of daily wages of the BPL families both in rural and urban areas. However, they generally benefit from the minimum wage rates which are fixed/revised by the appropriate Governments (State and Centre) in respect of scheduled employments under their respective jurisdiction under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.