

**Neeranchal scheme**

†923. SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated scheme named Neeranchal for watershed development;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount allocated during the current financial year and the amount sanctioned, so far; and

(d) the names of the States which would be benefited under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved the World Bank Assisted National Watershed Project “Neeranchal” on 7.10.2015 with a total outlay of ₹ 2142.30 crore. The duration of the project is between 2015-16 to 2020-21. The project would be implemented through 4 components as per the approved Project Appraisal Document (PAD). The components are Central Institutional and Capacity Building; National Innovation Support; Implementation Support in participating States and Project Management and Coordination.

(c) As the project has been approved only during October 2015, no funds have been allocated, sanctioned during the current financial year to the States.

(d) The project will be implemented in 9 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Telangana. Neeranchal will also support some activities across all the States.

**Villages adopted under SAGY**

924. SHRI DEVENDER GOUD T.: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 100 Members of Parliament (MPs) have not yet adopted villages under the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) what are the difficulties that the Ministry is facing to convince the MPs to adopt villages;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposes to stop release of their MPLAD funds if anyone fails to adopt a village during the next 1-2 months; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) 95 Members of Parliament have not yet adopted villages under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY).

(b) As per the guidelines of the SAGY, various correspondence and communications have been sent to Hon'ble Members of Parliament for facilitating identification of Gram Panchayat under SAGY. Member of Parliament submits the choice to the respective District Collectors who in-turn validates as per the criterion and communicate the same to Ministry of Rural Development. This process has also been informed to various State Governments and Ministry of Rural Development had requested State Governments to ensure identification of Gram Panchayat by every Member of Parliament. So far no State Government has written regarding any difficulty in this regards.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. No such provision is available in the Guidelines of the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana.

#### **Rural wage growth**

925. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports indicating that the rural wage growth has hit the lowest level during the last ten years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to reverse the trend?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Labour and Employment compiles and maintains the average daily wage rates in respect of selected agricultural and non-agricultural occupations on the basis of the information collected by the National Sample Survey Organization from a fixed set of 600 sample villages spread over 20 States. All-India annual average daily wage rates for unskilled labourers in rural areas for the years 2004 to 2015 (9 months average) along with their growth rates are given in Statement (*See* below). As per the data furnished by them, rural wage growth for the last ten years indicates a positive trend.

(c) Does not arise.