

**Separate Budget for SAGY**

†1739. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to allocate separate budget for the Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY);

(b) if so, by when and how much; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHAUDHARY BIRENDER SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) SAGY is primarily about unleashing the power of people who are expected to inculcate pride in village, encourage societal change/behavioural change, take collective responsibility and initiate People projects. The development of Gram Panchayats identified under SAGY is intended to take place through the convergence and implementation of existing Government Schemes and Programmes without allocating additional funds. In pursuance of above, the relevant Ministries/Departments of the Central Government have been requested by the Ministry of Rural Development to make suitable changes, wherever appropriate, in the guidelines of their respective Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes/Programmes to enable priority to be given to the Gram Panchayats selected under SAGY. While different Ministries/Departments have made changes in 21 of their Programme/Scheme guidelines, the Ministry is in touch with other relevant Ministries/Departments in this regard. A number of State schemes are required to be converged with this scheme for maximising benefit. This would require the guidelines of State Schemes/Programmes to be suitably amended to give automatic and mandatory priority to the GPs selected under SAGY. The States/UTs have been requested to do the needful in this regard.

However, as a onetime assistance, the States have been given funds at the rate of ₹ 50,000/-for each SAGY Gram Panchayat to be used by the Collectors/DMs for meeting administrative expenses. States/UTs are also being given varied amounts as a one-time financial assistance for hiring resource persons and meeting administrative expenses at the State/UT level under Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY).

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.