

[18 August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

(d) The projects were sanctioned to the organisation after-the appraisal of the viability of the projects by CAPART. These projects were monitored by receiving progress reports and through field evaluation by experts to ensure proper utilization of funds and percolation of benefits to the intended beneficiaries. Reports received were found satisfactory.

(e) and (f) A complaint was received from the Secretary District Farmer's Association, Chittoor, a unit of Federation of Farmer's Association, AP. The allegation made in the complaint however did not relate to projects sanctioned by CAPART to RAS.

Statement

Details of assistance given to RAS of A. P. during last three years:

(Amount in Rupees)				
Year	Scheme	Project Title and Purpose	Amount sanctioned	Amount of assistance released
2001-02	Public Cooperation	Swammukhi River Rejuvenation Project	23,43,000	23,43,000
	Workshop	NGOs Workshop (Sanctioned in 2000-2001)	1,14,000	1,14,000
	Workshop	Orientation of technologies (sanctioned 2000-2001)	1,41,374	1,41,374
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2003-04	Organisation of Rural Poor	Training programme on medicinal plants	1,24,530	1,00,000

Steps to alleviate the lot of BPL people

†1575. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mandatory reduction in poverty ratio by

five percentage points during the Tenth Plan and another 10 per cent during the Eleventh Plan would still leave more than 11 per cent population of about 130 million people below the poverty line, in 2012;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether it is a fact that many State Governments have demanded higher allocation of funds for rural development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) According to the Tenth Five Year Plan document "the mandated reductions in the poverty rate of 5 percentage points during the Tenth Plan and another 10 percentage points during the Eleventh Plan, as stipulated in the Approach Paper, will still leave more than 11 per cent of the population, or about 130 million people, below the poverty line in 2012". The Union Government has been making every effort to reduce the poverty rate as envisaged in the 10th Plan document. It is estimated that with a proper sectoral and regional focus, it may be possible to reduce the poverty rate by nearly 7 percentage points over the Tenth Plan period, if the growth target of 8 per cent is achieved through the State-wise break down that has been drawn up on consultation with the States.

(c) Yes, Sir. Some of the State Government demanded more allocation for the effective implementation of rural development schemes.

Identification of true backward districts in the country

1576. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have identified the true backward districts in the country where economic growth rate is near zero;

(b) if so, the particulars thereof, zone-wise; and

(c) the action taken to improve the socio-economic conditions of people living below the poverty line in these districts which are mostly flood prone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development has not identified the true backward districts in the