

to enable them to become true institutions of self-government for the Planning and Implementation of programmes of economic development and Social Justice as envisioned in the Constitution. Some State representatives expressed their reservation over any move to directly fund the panchayat by-passing the State Government. It was clarified that Government policy, based on the National Common Minimum Programme, is to avoid diversion or delay in funds reaching the panchayats and any alternative route for reaching funds to the Panchayats will be explored only in consultation with the State Governments. Some of the State Government demanded more funds for the rural development programmes.

Direct funding to Panchayati Raj Institutions

1572. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allocate funds directly to the Panchayati Raj Institutions for rural development schemes;

(b) whether Government received any complaint relating to the manner adopted by the District Rural Development Agencies (DRDA) to implement Central schemes; and

(c) whether Government propose to change the existing criteria for allocation of funds and review the proposed direct funding to Panchayats?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA) (a) to (c) The National Common Minimum Programme of the Government, *inter-alia*, aims at ensuring that all funds given to the States for implementation of Poverty Alleviation and Rural Development Schemes by Panchayats are neither delayed nor diverted. It further states that after consultation with the States, the Government will consider crediting elected Panchayats with such funds directly. There is no proposals to change the existing criteria for allocation of funds for rural development programmes.

Re-survey of Government lands

1573. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Karnataka has sought Central

financial assistance for undertaking re-survey of Government lands, and

(b) if so, what are the details and the Centre's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of Karnataka had submitted a proposal for undertaking a pilot project of re-survey in one taluk to be completed in one year with a total cost of Rs. 12.15 crores. The proposal of the State Government was considered by the Technical Committee under the Scheme of Strengthening of Revenue Administration and Updating of Land Records (SRA & ULR) in its meeting held on 10.8.2000. The Committee approved the pilot project in principle. It was also decided that before the pilot project was sanctioned, the State Government should submit a detailed Action Plan for taking up re-survey work in a phased manner in the entire State with the total requirement of funds. The State Government has not yet submitted the detailed Action Plan to this Ministry.

Central assistance to Rayalseema Seva Samithi (RAS) in A.P.

1574: SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) Whether it is a fact that Rayalseema Seva Samithi of Andhra Pradesh has received assistance from Government in the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the purpose for which such grants were given,

(d) what steps are proposed to review the activities of RAS;

(e) whether any complaints have also come against this organisation; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA) (a) Yes, Sir. Rayalseema Seva Samithi (RAS) has received assistance from CAPART during the last three years.

(b) and (c) Details of assistance and purpose for which the assistance are given at Statement (See below)