

1	2	3	4	5
161.	Jakhol Sankri*	3	11	33
162.	Naitwar-Mori*	3	11	33
	TOTAL (Uttaranchal) - 33 Nos schemes	81	—	5362
	GRAND TOTAL (16 States)- 162 Nos. schemes	522		48088

* Final PFR(s) have been prepared

Conference of State Ministers of Rural Development

1568 SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY
SHRI BALAWANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether a Conference of State Ministers of Rural Development was called on June 29, 2004,

(b) what specific issues were raised by the Maharashtra Minister and what decisions were taken thereon in the Conference; and

(c) what other important issues were taken up therein?

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

(b) and (c) The Chief Ministers and the Ministers of the Rural Development Department including Maharashtra State demanded for additional funds for the effective implementation of the Rural Development Schemes. Some State representatives including Maharashtra expressed their reservations over any move to directly fund the Panchayats by-passing the State Governments. It was clarified that Government policy, based on the National Common Minimum Programme, is to avoid any diversion or delay in funds reaching the Panchayats, and that any alternative route for reaching funds to the Panchayats will be explored only in consultation with State Governments.