

[18August, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

Vizianagaram District" for Netherland assistance on 13.07.2001 which was subsequently revised by the State Government on 08.03.2002. Department of Drinking Water Supply examined the project and communicated technical approval to the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance on 18.07.2002.

The Department of Economic Affairs informed that Government of Netherlands, Royal Netherlands Embassy did not consider the project in accordance with Dutch policy regulations.

**Enhancement of budgetary allocation for rural development**

1579. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to enhance budgetary allocation for rural development;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has identified some specific region based schemes in the State of Uttaranchal for rural development; and
- (d) if so, the break up of the allocation for above such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) to (d) The three Department of the Ministry of Rural Development are implementing a number of rural development programmes including wage employment, self employment, rural-infrastructure development and providing basic amenities like drinking water and sanitation etc. During the current financial year *i.e.* 2004-05, the total budget allocation for the rural development programmes is Rs. 15998.40 crore as against budget estimates-of Rs. 14070.00 crore for the year 2003-04. The Finance Minister in his budget speech has announced that the poor will have a first charge not only on the additional sum of Rs. 10,000 crore of GBS but also on the entire Plan funds that the Planning Commission will reallocate. All the programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development are being implemented in Uttaranchal also and no specific region based scheme has been identified in that State.