

Employment opportunities for educated unemployed rural youth

2178. SHRI B. P. APTE: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government to provide and create employment opportunities for educated unemployed youths in the rural areas during the last three years;

(b) the details of financial allocation made for the purpose during this period;

(c) the achievements of Government in this regard; and

(d) the financial allocation proposed to be made by Government for this purpose during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASHEB M. K. PATIL): (a) Two rural wage employment programmes, viz., the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) which were in operation throughout the country except Delhi and Chandigarh during 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 were merged into a new scheme called Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) with effect from 25th September, 2001 to provide a greater thrust to generation of additional wage employment, infrastructural development and food security in the rural areas. The SGRY is open to all rural poor who are able and willing to do manual labour for the minimum wage prescribed by the concerned State Government. Besides, the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) has also been in operation throughout the country except Chandigarh and Delhi since 1999-2000 with the objective of bringing the assisted rural poor families (swarozgaris) above the poverty line by providing them income generating assets through a mix of bank credit and Government subsidy.

(b) and (c) The Central assistance released, funds utilised by the State Government and the employment generated during the period 1999-2000 to 2001-2002 under the JGSY, the EAS and the SGRY (EAS & JGSY) and the SGSY are given in the Annexure.

(d) During the 10th Plan period, Union Government propose to allocate Rs. 48,538 crore for the SGRY and Rs. 9850.00 crore under the SGSY.