

(c) the average amounts spent on these schemes annually?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, A large number of public welfare schemes are being funded by the Central Ministries/Departments in Agriculture, Education, Labour and Information and Broadcasting sectors. Scheme-wise details are available in the Expenditure Budget Volume-II 1999-2000. The actual expenditure incurred by these Ministries/Departments on various plan schemes during 1999-2000 is as under:

	Rs. Crore
i) Department of Agriculture & Cooperation	1456.91
ii) Department of Animal Husbandary and Dairying	208.18
iii) Department of Agricultural Research and Education	503.78
iv) Department of Elementary Education & Literacy and Department of Secondary Education and Higher Education	4411.40
v) Ministry of Labour	83.12
vi) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	183.10

#### 49th Meeting of NDC

1290. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

DR. KARAN SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether at the 49th meeting of the National Development Council, Rajasthan made out a special plea for Central Aid, concessions or moratorium in repayment of Central Loans;

(b) if so, the details of the financial issues pressed by the State Government Threat and the aid and concession sought for; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

[14 March, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (c) At the 49th meeting of the National Development Council (NDC) held on 1st September, 2001 the Chief Minister of Rajasthan, besides raising other issues of general concern to States, made a special plea that Rajasthan be granted special category state status. Rajasthan does not fulfill the existing criteria for granting special category status. However, the said meeting of the NDC decided that suggestions made before it for looking into the criteria for granting special category status to states should be examined.

**Under utilisation of PMGY funds by States**

1291. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only Rs. 480 crores or about 17 per cent of the additional Central Assistance earmarked for the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) during 2001-2002 has been released to the States in the first seven months of the current financial year; .

(b) if so, the reasons for poor utilisation of the allocated funds; and

(c) the steps initiated towards better and speedier utilisation of the earmarked funds and also to fine tune the monitoring system for timely warnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) A provision of Rs.2800 crore has been made for Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) during 2001-02. Out of this amount, Additional Central Assistance (ACA) of Rs.557.32 crore has been released to the States in the first seven months of the current financial year 2001-02. However, an amount of Rs. 1566.02 crore has been released for PMGY upto 05.02.2002.