

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1180
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2003
MEETING OF SARPANCHES AND OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a nation-wide meeting of Sarpanches and other elected officials was called by the Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any consensus has reached in the meeting;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether any Task Force was set up to study the conclusions;
- (f) whether the Task Force has submitted its report;
- (g) if so, the salient points of this report; and
- (h) the time by which these are likely to be implemented by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL)

- (a) An `All India Panchayat Adhyakshas Sammelan` was organized by the Union Ministry of Rural Development on 5-6 April, 2002 in New Delhi.
- (b) The topics of discussion in the Sammelan included - (i) Devolution of Powers of Funds, Functions & Functionaries upon Panchayati Raj Institutions; (ii) Functioning of Gram Sabhas; (iii) Planning at the grass-roots level; (iv) Creating awareness in regard to various Programmes and Transparency in implementation; (v) Social Audit; and (vi) Resource Mobilisation.
- (c) & (d) The Sammelan adopted a declaration named `National Declaration` which is enclosed as Annexure-I.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) to (h) Question does not arise.