

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:750  
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2003  
DEVELOPMENT AND REFORMS FACILITY PROGRAMME  
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Development and Reforms Facility Programme was announced in the budget for 2002-03 to initiate States to introduce reforms that would accelerate growth;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government had identified 132 districts spread across the country to be funded by the Centre;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the concrete steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the total amount so far released to the States; State-wise and
- (e) The number of schemes in these backward areas have been implemented so far?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL):

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) During the year 2002-03, District Plans in respect of 25 districts were approved. However, funds for these districts could not be released as the modalities of the scheme have been approved by the Government during 2003-04. Consequently, the first instalment of Rs. 7.50 crore (50 per cent of the annual allocation) for each of the 25 districts has been released in September, 2003. In addition to the 25 districts, 41 more districts including 16 districts affected by left wing extremism are being covered under the scheme during the current year. Remaining districts will be covered under the scheme from the next year onward.
- (d) A statement is enclosed.
- (e) The funds under the scheme have been made available to the States only in the month of September, 2003.