

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4150
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2005
CLASSIFICATION OF STATES
Kathiria Dr. Vallabhbai

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has classified the States as developed, under-developed and backward areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, category-wise;
- (c) whether the Government has also classified different districts, villages and rural areas as falling within developed, under-developed and backward categories;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, category-wise;
- (e) the details of the action plan prepared by the Government for development of States, districts, villages and rural areas falling under backward category;
- (f) whether the Government proposes to provide special development packages for backward/under developed States, districts, villages and rural areas; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) to (d): No such classification has been made by the Government. However, some districts have been identified on the basis of criteria relating to backwardness for coverage under the Backward Districts Initiative of the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana, initiated in the Tenth Plan.

(e) to (g) : The Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY) was initiated in the Tenth Plan and has three components, namely, the Backward Districts Initiative, Special Plan for Bihar and Special Plan for the KBK districts of Orissa. The Backward Districts Initiative component of the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana covers 147 districts including 115 backward districts and 32 districts affected by left wing extremism. The main objectives of this scheme are to address the problems of low agricultural productivity, unemployment and to fill critical gaps in physical and social infrastructure. Rs. 45 crore is being provided for each of these districts over a period of three years under the programme. The Special Plan for Bihar focuses on development in the prioritized sectors, namely, power, rural connectivity, irrigation, integrated watershed development, integrated community based forest management, development schemes for horticulture, dairying, aquaculture, etc. An allocation of Rs.1000 crore per annum is being made for this component during the Tenth Plan period. Special Plan for the KBK districts of Orissa focuses on tackling the main problems of drought proofing, livelihood support, connectivity, health, education, etc. as per local priority. An allocation of Rs.250 crore per annum is being made for this component during the Tenth Plan period. Now, during the current financial year, a Backward Regions Grant Fund has been announced for establishment from the Annual Plan 2005-06 for removal of regional imbalance, which is under finalization. Consequent on the establishment of this Fund, the existing Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana, envisaged to end in 2006-07, is to be wound up with suitable transition arrangements that will protect every district now covered under RSVY.