

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:419
ANSWERED ON:22.02.2006
MODERNIZATION/ UPGRADATION OF INFRASTRUCTURE
Saradgi Shri Iqbal Ahmed

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister unveiled a mega investment Programme recently for modernizing and upgrading country's infrastructure;
- (b) if so, whether monitoring of this investment Programme will be done by the PMO;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is encouraging enterprises by reforming public sector and involving private and public participation in upgrading country's infrastructure; and
- (e) if so, the present status thereof and the timeframe fixed for completion of this Programme?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): Government has constituted a Committee on Infrastructure in August, 2004 under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister with the objective of initiating policies that would create world class infrastructure; developing structures that maximize the role of Public-Private Partnership in the field of infrastructure; and monitoring progress of key infrastructure projects to ensure that established targets are realized. The Committee includes the Finance Minister, the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission and the Ministers in-charge of the respective infrastructure Ministries. The Committee so far has held ten meetings and have articulated policies and action plans for highways, railways, ports, airports and power. The programmes and policies approved by this Committee have since been taken up for implementation by the respective Ministries.

An Empowered Sub Committee of the COI under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, has also been setup to, inter alia, monitor and follow up on implementation of the decisions of the COI.

The Government have also launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in December 2005. The scheme envisages an expenditure of Rs. 50,000/- crore within seven years beginning 2005-06 for upgradation of urban infrastructure facilities in the country.

Government have also announced Bharat Nirman for building rural infrastructure over a period of four years (2005-2009). Bharat Nirman comprises six components namely, irrigation, roads, water supply, housing, rural electrification and rural telecom connectivity. The Committee on Rural Infrastructure under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister is monitoring the implementation of Bharat Nirman.