

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:200  
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006  
DIVERSION OF FUNDS BY DRDAs  
Singh Shri Uday

**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware that certain District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) are involved in misuse and diversion of funds and are also involved in violation of guidelines, etc.
- (b) if so, whether the funds allocated by the Government to DRDAs for various Rural Development Schemes have been misused during the last three years and current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and scheme-wise; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to check such activities of DRDAs ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 200 due for answer on 03.03.2006.

The Ministry of Rural Development implements through the State Governments a number of schemes namely, the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) for self employment, the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) and the National Food for Work Programme (NFFWP) as wage employment, the Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) for providing shelter, Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for rural connectivity, Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Integrated Wastelands Development Projects (IWDP) for Area Development through Watersheds Projects, the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) and the Swajaldhara for providing safe drinking water and the Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) for Sanitation Programmes. The Ministry has instituted an in-built monitoring mechanism in the guidelines of each Scheme which mention that no funds should be diverted/mis-utilised and that the implementing agencies should ensure that the objectives of the scheme are achieved. The complaints regarding diversion of funds /mis-utilisation, mis-appropriation including irregularities are promptly attended to with the concerned State Government for immediate remedial action. In the year 2004, 25 complaints were verified through the National Level Monitors (NLMs) and during the year 2005-06, 126 complaints were enquired through National Level Monitors.

2. With a view to ensuring that the benefits of Rural Development Schemes reach the targeted persons, the Ministry of Rural Development has put in place a comprehensive system of monitoring the execution of the Programmes, including the utilization of funds, through periodical Progress Reports received from the States/UTs, field visits by Area Officers of the Ministry and discussions with the State Secretaries and with the Project Directors of the District Rural Development Agencies/Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Parishads/Panchayats, monitoring by the District Level Monitoring agencies and National Level Monitors. Besides, Concurrent Evaluations and Impact Assessment Studies are also conducted to find out more effective ways of achieving the programme objectives. The Ministry of Rural Development has also adopted a four pronged strategy comprising

- (i) creation of awareness about the schemes
- (ii) transparency
- (iii) peoples partnership and
- (iv) accountability, in order to expedite the works related to all these schemes.