

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:432
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2005
IMPLEMENTATION OF CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken initiatives to make the Panchayati Raj Institutions more effective in implementation of centrally-sponsored schemes reaching the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which these initiatives have benefited the rural people of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a), & (b): An exercise is on to review the guidelines of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to ensure the centrality of Panchayats in planning and implementation. All Ministries operating Centrally Sponsored Schemes have been asked to review their Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the light of Article 243 G read with the Eleventh Schedule, with a view to incorporating into these Schemes the Constitutional provisions in this regard in letter and spirit. As regards new Centrally Sponsored Schemes, a decision was taken that in all cases relating to such Schemes which have a bearing on decentralization that the Ministry of Panchayati Raj should be consulted and their views incorporated in the notes prepared for the consideration of Cabinet/Cabinet Committees. It may be noted that Panchayati Raj Institutions have been made the `principal authorities` for the planning and implementation of Schemes under the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act. The need to give a specific role to Panchayats in the implementation of the National Rural Health Mission Program has also been accepted in principle.

(c): The reform of Centrally Sponsored Schemes to ensure the centrality of Panchayats in planning and implementation would contribute to the improvement of service levels in key areas affecting the rural populace.