

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:334

ANSWERED ON:18.08.2006

IMPLEMENTATION OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES .

Barman Shri Hiten

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

- (a) Whether the progress in the implementation of rural projects by States is slow despite adequate allocation of funds by the Union Government;
- (b) If so, whether after a review focusing on certain States, the Ministry found that despite a positive response from several States to the Union Government's plea for more transparency, the situation at the village level continues to be unsatisfactory;
- (c) If so, the States where there has been slow progress in rural projects alongwith the reasons for the same; and
- (d) The suggestions made and the action taken by the Union Government for implementation of the rural development schemes vigorously by the States ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH)

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

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 334 due for answer on 18.8.2006

The Ministry of Rural Development implements a number of schemes through the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and Panchayati Raj Institutions. The progress in terms of financial and physical achievement is furnished by the respective State Governments and Union Territory Administrations on regular basis as per the guidelines. According to the progress reports received from the State Governments, during the year 2005-06, it is observed that the overall progress of the rural development programmes was found to be satisfactory in most of the States. However, in some States the progress was lower than the national average.

The Ministry of Rural Development has been regularly reviewing and monitoring all the schemes with the State Governments at various levels. The Ministry also emphasize the need for effective implementation of schemes at grass root level and to adopt five pronged strategy

- (i) creation of awareness about the schemes,
- (ii) transparency
- (iii) people's participation
- (iv) accountability- social audit through Gram Sabha and
- (v) strict monitoring & vigilance.

According to the provisional progress reports received from the State Governments, the total release to total allocation is 100.50% and the overall percentage utilization of funds with respect to the available funds was 60.35% during 2005-06. Percentage of utilization is lower in the States of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. A statement showing financial progress is enclosed at an Annexure-I

There are multiple reasons like recurrence of national calamities, drought, flood and election etc. for slow progress in implementation of rural development programmes in these States. In the North Eastern States the implementation capacity of the government agencies is low and in some cases the institutional set up are lacking. The progress is also slow in these States where elections took place to various constitutional bodies.

With a view to improve the pace of implementation of rural development programmes by the State Governments, the Ministry of Rural Development has put in place a comprehensive system of monitoring, review and impact assessment of the programmes including utilization of funds through Periodical Progress Reports, Performance of Review Committee, Area Officer's Scheme, Vigilance and Monitoring Committee at the State/District Level with greater involvement of Members of Parliament, National Level Monitors and District Level Monitoring to monitor quality of work, transparency and adherence to implementation of schemes as per programme guidelines.