

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3021
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2006
HILL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has provided special assistance for various developmental activities in the hilly regions under the Hill Area Development Scheme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether any special package has been announced for the hilly areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) the details of the achievements of the scheme so far in the current plan period; and
- (f) the criteria for selection of hilly regions under the Hill Area Development Scheme?

Answer

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

- (a): Yes, Sir. Special Central Assistance is being provided to the State Governments for the designated hill areas under the Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) / Western Ghats Development Programme (WGDP).
- (b): A statement showing the funds released to the State Governments for the hill areas covered by HADP / WGDP during the current Five Year Plan period and the expenditure reported by the State Governments against the same is enclosed.
- (c): No special package has been announced for the hill areas covered by HADP / WGDP.
- (d): Does not arise.
- (e): The statement enclosed in reply to part (b) above shows the expenditure reported i.e. the financial achievement against the funds released to the State Governments during the current plan period.
- (f): The designated hill areas covered by HADP were identified by a Committee of the National Development Council in 1965. The western ghats talukas covered by WGDP were identified in 1972 by a High Level Committee set up for the purpose.