

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3436

ANSWERED ON:15.12.2006

FUNDS FOR RURAL AREAS

Singh Deo Smt. Sangeeta Kumari;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the World Bank has cast aspersion on Union Government regarding paucity of funds in the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to increase flow of funds and investment in the rural areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c): The Government has substantially increased the budgetary outlays for the various rural sector programmes such as Rural Roads, Drinking Water, Rural Electrification, Rural Telecommunication etc. In addition, various other schemes and programmes such as Bharat Nirman, National Rural Health Mission, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Backward Regions Grant Fund etc. are also under implementation to increase the flow of funds and investment in the rural areas.