

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3177
ANSWERED ON:19.08.2004
HABITATIONS FOR SC/ST/OBC
Kumar Shri Shailendra

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether proper development has not been done in the habitations of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the entire country;
- (b) if so, whether there is any action plan in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA)

(a) to (d) Development of Socially disadvantaged groups including Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes continues to be on the priority in the development strategy of the country. A number of development schemes are being implemented targeting the welfare/development of these sections of the society. Ministry of Rural Development is implementing a number of rural development programmes and under these programmes special provisions have also been made to ensure the smooth flow of benefits of these programmes to the weaker sections of the society. Under the wage employment programme of the Ministry namely, Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), it has been provided that 50% of allocation under Stream-II of the programme must be utilized for taking up activities in the habitations of SCs/STs. Similarly, under Stream-I of the programme, 22.5% of the resources are earmarked for individual beneficiary schemes for SCs/STs.

Under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), which is a self-employment programme, special safeguards have been provided by way of reserving 50% benefits for SCs & STs. For Rural Housing, the Ministry is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) under which it has been provided that at least 60% of the total allocation must be provided for SC/ST households. Similarly under Drinking Water Supply also the guidelines provide that at least 35% funds of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP) is to be utilized for the benefit of SCs & STs.