

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**MINISTRY OF PLANNING**

**RAJYA SABHA**

**QUESTION NO 08.09.2011**

**ANSWERED ON**

**DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IN EXTREMIST AFFECTED AREAS .**

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Shri D. Bandyopadhyay

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to report of Planning Commission entitled "Development Challenges in the extremist affected areas";

(b) if so, its main recommendations; and

(c) the action that has been initiated on those recommendations?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR PLANNING, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES

(DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (c): The Expert Group on “Development Challenges in Extremist Affected Areas” set up by the Planning Commission under the chairmanship of Shri D. Bandopadhyay submitted its Report in April, 2008. The recommendations in the Report, inter-alia, relate to

- (i) effective implementation of protective legislations,
- (ii) land related measures,
- (iii) land acquisition and rehabilitation & resettlement,
- (iv) livelihood security,
- (v) universal standardized basic social services,
- (vi) enforcement of PESA,
- (vii) State response to the problems, and
- (viii) strengthening of the planning system.

Action is being taken in a multi-pronged manner. Inter-Ministerial discussions have been held on the status of implementation of PESA on important concerns including non-compliance of the State Panchayati Raj Acts and Subject Laws, lacunae in the guidelines of Centrally Sponsored Schemes and status of adequacy of manpower and infrastructure in Scheduled Areas; intensive monitoring of identified schemes and protective legislations; and relaxation of norms so that benefits of major schemes reach these areas. In order to address the problem of development deficit in these areas and to have tangible quick results, the Government has also recently approved an Integrated Action Plan (IAP) for 60 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts of nine States under which a block grant of Rs. 25 crore and Rs. 30 crore per district during 2010-11 and 2011-12 respectively will be placed at the disposal of the Committee headed by the District Collector and consisting of Superintendent of Police of the district and the District Forest Officer. Further, the Government has approved a scheme for development of 1202 Kms of National Highways and 4363 Kms. of State Roads to two lane standards at an estimated cost of Rs.7300 crore for improvement of road connectivity (National Highways and State Roads) in Left Wing Extremism affected areas. An additional amount of Rs. 2000 crore was also provided in the Supplementary Demand for Grants for 2010-11 under PMGSY for Left Wing Extremism affected districts. Also, relaxations in the norms of schemes such as the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana(PMGSY), Indira Awaas Yojana(IAY), Forest (Conservation) Act,1980, etc. have been given so that the benefits of major schemes reach these areas. In August, 2009 Government decided that Planning Commission would monitor the implementation of major developmental schemes under implementation in the focus districts affected by Left Wing Extremism. Accordingly, Planning Commission developed a Management Information System (MIS) to monitor the progress of implementation of the following major schemes, namely, Supplementary Nutrition (ICDS), Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act

(MGNREGA), Indira Awas Yojana (IAY), National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Rajiv Gandhi Gramin Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY), Drinking Water Supply and Ashram Schools as well as the Forest Rights Act in the 60 Selected Tribal and Backward Districts covered under the Integrated Action Plan (IAP). The progress under these schemes and the IAP is being directly uploaded by the districts on the above said MIS <http://pcserver.nic.in/iapmis>. Regular Video-conferences/meetings are held with the District Collectors/ District Magistrates of the 60 selected districts and the Development Commissioners of the

States concerned to address the problems in implementation of developmental schemes in these districts with focus on completion of schemes.