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UP Govt grants ₹250 cr to build infrastructure

KUNWAR ASHOK S RAJPUT

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AFTER reviving its favorite Lohia Gram Yojana, Samajwadi Party Government has sanctioned Rs 250 crore for building infrastructure in over 1000 villages having population over 250.

The decision about reviving the Lohia Gram scheme was taken at a meeting of the board of directors of Mandi Parishad, which was chaired by Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav. CM is Chairman of the Krishi Mandi Parishad.

Previous BSP's government paid attention on Ambedkar Gram Vikas Yojana for development of villages which have substantial Dalit population.

In 141th board director meeting budget of Rs 2067 crore was sanctioned

for the Mandi Parishad for the fiscal year 2012-13. High profile meeting was attended by Agriculture Production Commissioner Alok Ranjan, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Rakesh Garg, Principal Secretary Finance Vrinda Swaroop, Principal Secretary Agriculture Rajiv Kapoor, Principal Secretary Food and Civil Supplies Balvinder Kumar and Mandi's Director Satendra Singh.

Lohia's Gram development tag scheme was first introduced by the previous Mulayam Singh government in the year 2004 introduced to build infrastructures like CC road, solar street lights and sewage and provide hand pumps in the identified villages. After announcing revival of this Lohia Gram Yojana, Chief Minister said that 1000 villages with population of over 250 should be

selected under this scheme in this fiscal and these should be provided with basic amenities. At least 5 villages from each district should be selected and each identified village should get Rs 25 lakh. Besides Lohia Gram scheme, Rs 887.88 crore was earmarked for construction or renovation of Mandi Parishad venues and Rs 740.98 crore for construction of link roads, it also sanctioned Rs 190 crore as establishment expenses, CM said.

Under revived Lohia Gram, the Samajwadi Party government selects villages which have considerable population of most backward castes, who are also given land, senior official told PBD. CM asked Mandi Parishad officials that they should get a vision document prepared by an institute of repute highlighting the road map of Parishad's targets for next five year.