



Russia govt refuses to finance several fed programs in 2006

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MOSCOW, June 23 (Itar-Tass) - The Russian government has refused to finance in 2006 a number of federal programmes, including the implementation of the administrative reform and development of state-private partnership at transport, a source in the Cabinet told Itar-Tass on the eve of discussing the corresponding issue at the government meeting on Thursday.



According to the official, the Cabinet has already approved 36 federal target-oriented programmes that will be financed next year and 14 new draft programmes is planned to be approved by July 15. It is planned to allocate for their implementation a total about 287 billion roubles in 2006.

Aside from the administrative reform and state-private transport partnership, the government also excluded from the financing list the sub-programmes "Antiterror at transport," "Ecology and natural resources," "The World Ocean" and "Modernisation of the transport system."

Moreover, the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade proposed not to resume programmes the term of implementation of which expires this year. In the view of economists, federal funds should not be allotted any more for the "Youth of Russia," "International Thermonuclear Reactor (ITER), as well as "Socio-economic development of the Kurile Islands and Sakhalin region" programmes.

The Cabinet is expected instead to begin the implementation of the programme of social support to the disabled for the period up to 2010, as well as the sub-programme "Providing housing to refugees and displaced persons" starting from 2006.

Developing the list of the programmes, the government also gave attention to main clauses of the Russian presidential State-of-the-Nation Address to the Federal Assembly. President Vladimir Putin instructed the Cabinet then to draft a programme for the reduction of the scope of alcohol and drug addiction in the country, development of healthy life styles and physical culture and sports.

According to the government official, the Cabinet is developing a special programme entitled "The development of physical culture and sports in Russia," as well as "Complex measures aimed at combating drug abuse and drug trafficking."

In the years ahead, the government decided to extend a number of programmes adopted earlier, including "The Russian language," "Russian culture," "Development of education," and "The federal space programme for the period up to 2015."