

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2036

ANSWERED ON:05.08.2005

MODERN TECHNOLOGY FOR PROVISION OF URBAN AMENITIES IN RURAL AREAS

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**Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

(a) whether village knowledge centre was one of the essential components for realizing the goals of graduating into a knowledge society and lead to the transformation of the nation into a developed country;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to back 'Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas' (PURA) with modern technology to bridge the rural urban divide;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) to (d) Providing knowledge connectivity in the form of good educational and training institutions is one among the seven identified components under the scheme Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA), and is essential for realizing the goals of graduating into a knowledge society and to bridge the urban rural divide. The Ministry of Rural Development in consultation with Planning Commission has decided to initially launch a pilot phase for implementation of the scheme Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA). Under the pilot phase, the following seven facilities are proposed to be provided:

(i) Road and transportation

(ii) Power connectivity

(iii) Electronic connectivity in the form of reliable telecom, internet and IT Services

(iv) Knowledge connectivity in the form of good educational and training institutions

(v) Market connectivity to enable farmers to get the best price for their produce

(vi) Drinking water supply

(vii) Health facilities of basic quality and standards.