

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3493  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010  
MIGRATION OF PEOPLE FROM RURAL AREAS  
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to develop rural areas in the country to smaller towns to arrest the migration of people from rural areas to cities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether one of the reason for migration from rural areas to cities is lack of infrastructure in rural areas; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN `ADITYA`)

(a) to (d): The Ministry of Rural Development has been implementing various schemes with the objectives of overall development of rural areas and for alleviating poverty of rural households. These schemes include Swarnjayanti Gram Swarajgar Yojana (SGSY) for self employment opportunities, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) for providing wage employment (unskilled manual work), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) for providing good all weather roads to the unconnected eligible habitations and Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) for constructing dwelling units and upgradation of existing unserviceable kutcha houses. Under the MGNREGA as far as possible, employment shall be provided within a radius of five kilometers of the village where the applicant resides at the time of applying. In cases, the employment is provided outside such radius, it must be provided within the block and laborers shall be paid 10% extra wages. As such, providing local employment on demand by the household mitigates distress migration. In addition to the above ongoing programmes, the Government has also approved a scheme namely Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) for implementation on a pilot basis during 11th plan. The basic objective of PURA scheme is to provide livelihood opportunities and urban amenities in rural areas to bridge the rural - urban divide in the framework of Public Private Partnership (PPP) between Gram Panchayat(s) and Private Sector Partners.