

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:500  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011  
AMENITIES TO RURAL POPULATION  
Sudhakaran Shri K.

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

(a) whether the Government has sought the help of private players to participate in setting up of schools and health centers across the country to provide amenities to rural population; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard;

**Answer**

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

(a) & (b): The Government has approved Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) Scheme for implementation on pilot basis in XI Plan. The scheme proposes holistic and accelerated development of compact areas around a potential growth centre in a Gram Panchayat(s) through Public Private Partnership (PPP) framework for providing livelihood opportunities and urban amenities to improve the quality of life in rural areas. The scope of the scheme is to select private partners to develop livelihood opportunities, urban amenities and infrastructure facilities and to be responsible for maintenance of the same for a period of 10 years in selected Panchayats/cluster of Panchayats. The amenities and livelihoods opportunities to be provided are from the schemes of Ministry of Rural Development, and, from the schemes of other Ministries which are available on tap. In addition, the private partner could choose livelihood activities depending on the requirements of the area. The choice is left to the private partners, and, could also include health care and education facilities.

For selecting the private partners, a notice was issued inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) from private sector entities on 15th April 2010 in leading national and financial dailies. In response to the notice, 93 EoIs were received out of which 45 organizations had qualified at the EoI Stage. These 45 organizations were asked to submit the detailed bid alongwith concept plan by 07th October 2010. In response, 09 organizations had submitted 14 out of which 11 proposals have qualified. The concerned private entities, whose proposals have qualified, have been asked to submit to Detailed Project Report (DPR) to this Ministry by 22nd February 2011 for approval.