

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:531  
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2011  
LOCATIONS UNDER PURA  
Azad Shri Kirti (Jha);Tandon Annu

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

- (a) the details of eleven project proposals selected under Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) alongwith with the basis of selection of these locations;
- (b) the details of the villages likely to be covered under these projects;
- (c) whether the States like Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat were ignored during the selection process; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

(a)to(d): 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 private sector entities is given the flexibility of selecting the Gram Panchayat(s) on the basis of certain socio-economic guidelines, such as a critical population size of 25,000 - 40,000 in an area of about 25 square kilometers; geographic dispersion of selected PURA Gram Panchayats across the country so as to be largely representative in nature. 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 Eols were received out of which 45 organizations had qualified. These 45 organizations were asked to submit the detailed bid alongwith concept plan by 07th October 2010. In response, 09 organizations had submitted 14 proposals out of which 11 proposals have qualified. The qualified 11 project are located in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Uttrakhand. The pilots would provide learning for future upscaling. The concerned private entities, whose proposals have qualified, have been asked to prepare Detailed Project Report (DPR) and submit to this Ministry by 22nd February 2011 for approval. Hence, process of selection of private partners for implementation of PURA scheme has not been completed so far.