

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:707

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2011

INVOLVEMENT OF PRIVATE SECTOR IN PURA SCHEME

Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

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

(a) whether the Government has any plan to engage private sector in implementing the Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) Scheme;

(b) if so, the response from the private sector in this regard; and

(c) the measures being taken to implement the Scheme effectively?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) Scheme for implementation on pilot basis during 11th Five Year 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.

For selecting the private sector partners, a notice was issued inviting Expression of Interest (EoI) from private sector entities on 15.04.2010 in leading national and financial dailies. In response, 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 detailed bids out of which 11 proposals had qualified. The concerned private entities, whose proposals had qualified, were asked to submit to Detailed Project Report (DPR) to this Ministry by 22nd February 2011. In response, 5 organizations had submitted 8 DPRs which are under evaluation.

A Concession Agreement will be signed between the Gram Panchayat as the Grantor and the private developer as the concessionaire. It shall include details of minimum service level standards, performance guarantees, etc. State Support Agreement will also be signed between Ministry of Rural Development, State Government and private developer. The commitment of State Government for delivering the core facilities like roads, bulk water and power to the PURA area shall be made as part of this agreement. Besides, wide consultations / workshop are being held with private sector partners, State Governments, District Rural Development Agencies and other stakeholders for effective implementation of the scheme.