

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:950
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2012
CENSUS TOWNS
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to Census 2011, a number of rural settlements have been re-classified as Census Towns;
- (b) if so, the total number of Census Towns in the country along with the number of these towns that have been re-classified after the Census 2011 result, State-wise;
- (c) whether the Government is aware of the requirement of customized policies and schemes for these towns as they neither fall under the rural areas nor under the urban areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to address this issue?

Answer

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

(a) to (e): In the Census 2011, a number of rural settlements have been classified as Census Towns as per the prescribed demographic criteria. A Statement giving State-wise number of Census Towns at Censuses 2001 & 2011 is at Annexure. There is no such detail available for post-Census 2011, as the classification of Census Town is done only prior to and solely for the purpose of Census. It may be noted that at the start of each decennial Population Census, classification of rural and urban units is done on the basis of certain demographic criteria. Since 1961 Census, the basic Demographic criteria adopted for classification of Census Towns are as under:

- i. A minimum population of 5,000
- ii. At least 75 per cent of the male main working population engaged in non-agricultural pursuits; and
- iii. A density of population of at least 400 per sq. km.

In 2011 Census, the Classification of Census Towns has been done on the basis of 2001 Census data.