

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3773
ANSWERED ON:04.09.2012
CENSUS TOWNS
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been a rapid rise in the number of new kind of settlements known as `Census Towns` with a population of over 5000 that have lost the characteristics of a village but figure in neither the rural nor the urban categories;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such census towns have been identified in the States, especially in Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government has any plan to develop such towns in the near future; and
- (f) if so, the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. There has been a rise in the number of 'Census Towns'. The number of Census Towns has increased from 1362 in 2001 to 3892 in 2011. The details of the total number of Census Towns in the country and States are given in the enclosed "Annexure-I".

Census towns are infact the revenue villages which satisfy the following criteria:

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

The Census Towns are treated as town for Census Purpose only.

(c) & (d): Yes Madam. The details are given in the enclosed "Annexure-I".

(e) to (f): Various poverty alleviation schemes viz; the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) / National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM) / Ajeevika, the Rural Housing Program of Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) are being implemented in rural areas. These are therefore being implemented in Census Towns also.