

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1032

ANSWERED ON:29.11.2012

IMPLEMENTATION OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

Das Shri Ram Sundar;Karwariya Shri Kapil Muni;Patil Shri A.T. Nana

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

- (a) whether despite implementation of various rural development schemes, the pace of development is much higher in urban areas than the rural areas;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the allocation of funds for various rural development schemes has fallen for the last few years;
- (d) if so, the details of funds allocated, released and spent during the last three years and the current year;
- (e) whether in view of increase in poverty estimates in rural areas, the Government proposes to increase the allocation of funds for rural development schemes;
- (f) if so, the details thereof;
- (g) whether the States have not utilized the funds fully; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a)&(b) The difference in the pace of development between rural and urban areas is largely due to historical reasons. The Government has given priority to agriculture and rural development with a view to generating adequate productive employment and to accelerate the growth rate of the rural economy. The schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development focus on employment, housing, rural infrastructure, area development and social assistance to the target groups in particular to the rural families living Below Poverty Line (BPL).The rural development schemes aiming to increase the income of the poorer section of the population to narrow this difference.

(c)to(f): The allocation of funds under various rural development schemes is based on programme specific objectives, target group parameters including incidence of poverty, requirement of funds by States as per Annual Action Plan, absorption capacity/utilization and unspent funds in the last years. Central allocation, release and utilization made under various programmes during last three years 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and current year2012-13 are given at Annexure.

(g)&(h): The funds are utilized by the District Rural Development Agency (DRDAs)/Zila Parishads (ZPs)/ Implementing Agencies as per the programme guidelines and the unspent funds are carry forward to the next financial year for continuity of the projects/schemes.

The Ministry of Rural Development has developed a comprehensive system of monitoring the implementation and impact of the programme including utilization of funds through Periodical Progress Reports, Performance Review Committee, Area Officer's Scheme, Vigilance and Monitoring Committee at the State/District Level, and National Level Monitors. Besides, the State Governments have been advised to adopt five pronged strategy i.e. (i) creation of awareness about the schemes,(ii) transparency, (iii) people's partnership, (iv) accountability, social audit and (v) strict vigilance and monitoring at all levels to improve the implementation process.