

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1706  
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2013  
BHARAT NIRMAN VOLUNTEERS  
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether the Andhra Pradesh is having highest number of Bharat Nirman Volunteers (BNVs) in the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not effectively facilitating the delivery of public services of the Government under various schemes in spite of having a strong force of BNVs in Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government for effectively using BNVs to take schemes to rural households;
- (d) whether any special plan has been drawn for this purpose in the 12th Five Year Plan;and
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

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

- (a) By enrolling over 35,600 Bharat Nirman Volunteers (BNVs), Andhra Pradesh is presently at second position in enrolling BNVs in the country.
- (b) Out of 21,600 Gram panchayats in Andhra Pradesh, Bharat Nirman volunteers have been enrolled in 2060 Gram panchayats amounting less than 10% of the total Gram panchayats in the State. Moreover, the BNVs are non-paid volunteers who have come forward to create awareness among the rural households on various welfare and development programmes of both Central and State Governments. They are doing this voluntary work in their free time for the betterment of their own villages.
- (c) The Ministry of Rural Development has been making continuous efforts to extend the Initiative to more areas by addressing the States. The State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs), Extension Training Centres (ETCs) and States are consulted from time to time for expanding the Initiative in more blocks of the country and as a result, over two lakh BNVs have been enrolled so far.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Does not arise.