

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:355  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009  
IMPLEMENTATION OF PURA  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government has implemented the Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) scheme from 2004-05 to bridge the gap between rural and urban areas;
- (b) if so, the detail of achievements made so far in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to further expand this scheme keeping in view the exodus of rural people to urban areas;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the further steps proposed to be taken by the government for generation of employment opportunities in rural areas?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(DR. C. P. JOSHI)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 355 for 14.12.2009

The PURA scheme was implemented on a pilot basis w.e.f 2004 -05 for a period of three years in seven clusters, one each in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh. The scheme was based on the concept of bridging the rural urban divide and achieving balanced socio economic development.

It was aimed at providing the physical and social infrastructure in the identified rural clusters to further their growth potential. The budget provision for each year of 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was Rs. 10 Crores. Against the release of Rs. 30 crores during the pilot phase, the States have reported an expenditure of Rs. 25.54 crores as on 30.11.2009. A statement indicating the physical and financial progress is annexed. The pilot phase ended in March, 2007.

Based on the experience of pilot projects, inputs received from Ministries/Departments and other sources, the restructured PURA scheme is under consideration of the Government.