GOVERNMENT OF INDIA RURAL DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2886
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009
URBAN AMENITIES IN RURAL AREAS
Pandey Shri Ravindra Kumar;Rao Shri Nama Nageswara

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the works undertaken in the country under Providing Urban Amenities in the Rural Areas (PURA) alongwith the amount of fund allocated and spend for the purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/Union Territory-wise;
- (b) whether the budgetary provision and the cumulative expenditure provided for the purpose by the Union Government is quite inadequate;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to implement the said scheme in the tribal dominated States particularly in Jharkhand;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether any foreign country including Japan has made any contribution to the said scheme; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof during the said period Country-wise?

Answer

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

- (a): 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 budget provision for each year of 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was Rs. 10 Crores. Since funds for 2004-05 were released in March, 2005 the entire cycle got shifted with funds for subsequent years being released around February March. 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. The State wise details of funds released and expenditure incurred on various items for which funds were released are indicated in Annexure. The pilot phase ended in March, 2007 and thereafter no funds have been released under the scheme. The budgetary provision was adequate for implementing the scheme in a limited number of clusters. The scheme has been restructured and would be implemented after obtaining clearance of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs.
- (b)&(c): The pilot phase of PURA scheme was experimental in nature aimed at drawing an experience which could be utilized for restructuring the scheme in future. Hence, the budgetary provision was adequate to run a limited pilot phase.
- (d)&(e): Currently, the restructured PURA scheme is under consideration of the Government.
- (f): No, Sir.
- (g): Does not arise.