

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1135

ANSWERED ON:17.07.2014

URBANAMENITIES IN RURAL AREAS

Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai;Meinya Dr. Thokchom

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a pilot scheme of Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas(PUARA) is being implemented in the country and if so, the salient features thereof including the rural areas covered under the scheme;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to start a new idea of "Rurbanisation" through which basic urban facilities are likely to be provided in the villages, and if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the estimated funds required for implementation of this idea;
- (d) whether any time frame has been chalked out for the implementation of this idea; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) Yes Sir, Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) is being implemented in the country. The scheme aims at holistic and accelerated development of compact areas around a potential growth centre in a Gram Panchayat(s) through Public Private Partnership (PPP) framework for providing livelihood opportunities and urban amenities to improve the quality of life in rural areas. The salient features of the scheme are as below:

- (i) The leveraging of public funds with private capital and management expertise for creation and maintenance of rural infrastructure.
- (ii) Implementation through a private partner to ensure simultaneous delivery of key infrastructure required in villages leading to optimal use of resources.
- (iii) Funding under PURA scheme may come from four sources: mandatory schemes of Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) and Ministry of Drinking Water and Supply, non-MoRD schemes, private financing and Capital Grant under PURA.
- (iv) Agreement between Gram Panchayat and the private partner that facilitates empowerment of Gram Panchayats and public accountability.

Under the pilot stage the following projects are proposed and are at various stages of approval/appraisal.

Sl.No. State District

- 1 Kerala Malappuram
- 2 Thrissur
- 3 Andhra Pradesh Krishna
- 4 Warangal
- 5 Rajasthan Jaipur
- 6 Rajsamand
- 7 Uttarakhand Dehradun
- 8 Maharashtra Sangli
- 9 Puducherry Karaikal

(b) to (e) In the Budget Speech for 2014-15, it has been stated that Gujarat has demonstrated successfully the Rurban development model of urbanization of the rural area, through which people living in the rural areas can get efficient civic infrastructure and associated services. It has been further stated that 'Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission' will be launched to deliver integrated project based infrastructure in the rural areas, which will also include development of economic activities and skill development. The preferred mode of delivery would be through Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) while using various scheme funds for financing. An amount of Rs 100 Crore has been provided for the scheme for the year 2014-15.

