

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:141

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015

PROVISION OF URBAN AMENITIES IN RURAL AREAS

Shekhawat Shri Gajendra Singh

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) scheme is being implemented in the country and if so, the details thereof along with aims, objectives and the salient features thereof;
- (b) the details of works undertaken under PURA along with funds allocated, released and utilised during the last three years and the current year, State and UT-wise;
- (c) the current status of the scheme in terms of various number of persons benefited and other achievable goals;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to extend/ include more areas under PURA scheme and also expand the role of local bodies in the implementation of the scheme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government has received proposals from States under PURA and if so, the details thereof along with the status of the proposals, State and UT-wise;

Answer

MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH)

(a) to (e) A statement is laid on the table of the house. Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No.141 for reply on 05.03.2015.

(a) Yes Sir. Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas was being implemented in a pilot mode. The scheme was restructured in 2010 with the aim to achieve holistic and accelerated development of compact areas around a potential growth centre in 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 primary objective of the scheme is the provision of livelihood opportunities and urban amenities in rural areas to bridge the rural – urban divide. The salient features of the scheme are as below:

(i) Convergence of Central and State Government schemes.

(ii) Public Private Partnership.

(iii) The leveraging of public funds with private capital and management expertise for creation and maintenance of rural infrastructure.

(iv) Implementation in project mode and based on lifecycle cost approach that allows bundling of construction and operations & maintenance of infrastructure and amenities.

(v) Implementation through private party to ensure simultaneous delivery of key infrastructure required in villages leading to optimal use of resources.

(vi) Funding for projects 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.

(vii) Site selection by private partner on basis of socio-economic growth considerations.

(b) The details of Budget Estimate (BE), Revised Estimate (RE) and Actual Expenditure during the last three years and the current year under PURA is given below:

Rs. in crore											
2011-12			2012-2013			2013-14			2014-15		
BE	RE	Actual	Exp.	BE	RE	Actual	Exp.	BE	RE	Actual	Exp.
100	90	90	150	0	0	50	3	3	50	0	0

(c) & (d) The entire area chosen by the private party under the scheme will benefit once the project is rolled out. The activities proposed under PURA projects include drinking water supply and sewerage, construction and maintenance of village streets, drainage, solid waste management, skill development, development of economic activities etc. The current status of PURA projects is as follows:

Sl.No.	State	Name of the District	Project Status
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1	Kerala	Thrissur	Concession Agreement and State Support Agreement signed
2	Malappuram		Concession Agreement and State Support Agreement signed
3	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna	Concession Agreement and State Support Agreement signed
4	Warangal		Letter of Award Issued
5	Uttarakhand	Dehradun	Letter of Award Issued
6	Rajasthan	Jaipur	Approval under process
7	Rajsamand		Approval under process
8	Maharashtra	Sangli	Concept Plan being evaluated

Under the scheme, the consent of Panchayat/ a cluster of Panchayats is required for the implementation of the project by the private sector entity. Signing of the concession agreement by the Panchayat with private sector entity is also a mandatory requirement for implementation of PURA projects. At the end of the concession period, the Panchayat/ cluster of Panchayats are required to take over the charge of the assets created to ensure continuity of the services to the public.

(e) No, Madam. Under PURA proposals are invited from the private parties and not State/UT Governments.