

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1986
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2014
HOUSING FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether housing conditions in rural India have not improve much as approximately 25 percent occupied rural houses are with thatched roofs, which are not safe for living;
- (b) if so, the schemes being implemented by the Government for providing better housing facilities to the rural population all over the country especially in backward States like Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal & Assam; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to ensure that the benefits of those schemes reach that the benefits of those schemes reach the targetted people?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BIRENDER SINGH)

(a) and (b): No, Madam. The total figure of houselessness in rural areas, as per Census 2001 figure was 148.33 lakh. The position in rural areas has improved as reported in the Census 2011, according to which 108.85 lakh houses are non-serviceable in the country.

Indira AwaasYojana(IAY) is implemented throughout the country (except Delhi & Chandigarh) for providing better housing facilities to rural BPL population, including in backward States like Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Assam.

(c): In the year 2013-14, the Ministry of Rural Development revised the IAY guidelines to ensure that vulnerable categories are covered on priority, such as manual scavengers, leprosy or cancer patients, people living with HIV(PLHV), transgenders, free bonded labourers etc. The States have been given greater role in finalisation of district-wise targets. Regarding the earmarked category of SC/ST/Minorities, these are allocated on the basis of population of the concerned category in the rural area of the district.

Implementation of IAY is reviewed in PRC meetings on a quarterly basis, State Coordinating Officers meetings on a monthly basis, Area Officers visits and National Level Monitors visits. In addition, progress reports are received on MIS and Monthly Progress Reports (MPR) in the Ministry.