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Title: Need to provide transport services in rural areas on the lines of Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM).

SHRIMATI BOTCHA JHANSI LAKSHMI (VIZIANAGARAM): Thank you, Sir. Everyone says, "India lives in Villages" but coming to practicality, all said and done, the rural infrastructure was not developed at least 50 per cent on par with urban infrastructure in our country. Many people are commuting from rural areas to urban areas every day for their livelihood. This is also reducing population pressure on rural areas. But the road connectivity between rural and urban areas needs to be improved a lot. The rural people are facing the hardships every day in commuting to urban areas. Therefore, I would request the Government through you, Sir, to consider providing transport services in rural areas on the lines of Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission. There is a need for a scheme like JNNURM for rural sector also.

I thank the UPA Government for providing 35 per cent funds under the JNNURM Scheme. I have no doubt in my mind that because of this Scheme, the urban transport sector is witnessing major changes. We can see new buses with many facilities on the roads. In contrast, no such facility is available in the rural sector. Many States are running rural services with the help of transport corporations like AP Transport, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, whatever they may be across the States, running only by transport corporations. However, within the available resources, States are managing the fleet with great difficulty. Same is the case with rest of India. In Andhra Pradesh, rural transport programmes like Palle Velugu (Light of Villages) are bringing new hope to the rural passengers.

Therefore, I urge the Government, through you, Sir, to bring out a similar Scheme on the lines of JNNURM to the rural sector, so that we say really that we serve to rural people and to great saying that "India lives in Villages" is practically implemented.

सभापति महोदय : सदन की कार्यवाही 24 मार्च, 2011 के पूर्वाह्न 11 बजे तक के लिए स्थगित की जाती है।

**20.24 hrs**

## **The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock**

*on Thursday, March 24, 2011/Chaitra 3, 1933 (Saka).*

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\* Not recorded.

\* Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, See No. LT 4382/15/11.

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