

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2494
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2005
CONSTRUCTION COST OF PUCCA HOUSES UNDER IAY
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that there is large difference in construction cost of new pucca houses in rural areas as compared to urban areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore; (
- (c) the steps taken to pay more attention in this regard towards rural areas;
- (d) whether the houses constructed for poors have not been allotted at most of the places and are still lying vacant in large number;
- (e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the reasons therefore; and
- (f) the steps taken to allot the same to the poors without any further delay?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that there is difference in construction cost of new pucca houses in rural areas as compared to urban areas. Such difference can be found between States and also within a State due to various factors like transportation costs, geographical factors, local cost of construction materials etc.

(c) to (f) The Government is implementing Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) since the year 1985-86 to provide financial assistance for construction / upgradation of dwelling units to the below poverty line (BPL) rural households. Keeping in view the construction cost, unit cost of the IAY house has been enhanced with effect from 1.4.2004 from Rs. 20,000/- to Rs. 25,000/- for plain areas and from Rs. 22,000/- to Rs. 27,500/- per unit for hilly and difficult areas. Similarly, the ceiling for upgradation of unserviceable kutcha house to pucca/semi pucca house has also been increased from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs.12,500/- for all areas. Under the Scheme, lumpsum financial assistance is provided for the beneficiaries to construct houses on their own plots and therefore, the question of not allotting the houses to the beneficiaries, does not arise.