

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1542
ANSWERED ON 26/07/2022

EQUALITY VILLAGES

1542. SHRI RAVIKUMAR D.:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to construct houses for all in rural areas without any caste discrimination;
- (b) whether the Government has created more than 200 'Equality Villages' in Tamil Nadu and provided accommodation to people belonging to all castes and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government also has any plan to set up equality villages under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI)

(a) In order to achieve "Housing for All", the overall target is to construct 2.95 crore houses under Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) in rural areas. The beneficiaries under the scheme are identified on the basis of housing deprivation parameters and exclusion criteria prescribed under Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011. These parameters/criteria are applied both on SECC 2011 and "Awaas+" survey databases and then they are further subjected to due verification by Gram Sabha and an appellate process thereafter. The houses under the scheme are provided to all the rural areas as per the guidelines without any caste discrimination.

(b) No Sir. It is an initiative of Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

(c) No Sir, there is no proposal to set up "equality villages". In fact, PMAY-G works on a saturation made for coverage of all households having Kutchha houses upto two rooms, irrespective of their caste affiliations. Basic facilities in those houses viz. toilets, electricity and LPG connections thereto are assured through convergence with the ongoing schemes. The Government of India is already implementing various Development schemes for poverty alleviation, wage employment, rural infrastructure, skill development, etc. which have over the years reduced poverty and improved the quality of life and infrastructure in rural areas. The goal of Govt. of India is to have equitable development in all villages of the country.
